Frederick Forsyth

Kosovo: Our worst military adventure since Suez page 23



A perfect wife

Cate Blanchett's new movie ARTS page 37



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Bombs hit refugee convoy

75 feared dead as 'Nato hits tractors on road'

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rour needs

By Michael Evans and Richard Owen IN GIOIA DEL COLLE

NATO began an urgent investigation last night after its bombers were accused of hitting a convoy of Albanian refugees, killing 75 people.

Nato admitted that it had at-tacked the road where the refugees were supposed to be trav-elling, but insisted it had targeted military vehicles. It promised careful analysis of its cockpit video of its attack. At the same time, the Pentagon said that Yugoslav Air Force planes were flying over Kosovo yesterday and suggested that they may have been responsible for the attack.

If it were confirmed that Nato had killed 75 civilians, it would be the second tragic bombing mistake in two days, after the airstrike on a passener train near Leskovac that

killed ten people. A Yugosiav official in Pristina claimed at first that there had been two attacks vester day. He said: "In one, in the village of Zrze, six people were killed and 11 wounded. In another one, in the village of Meja, 64 people were killed and 20 wounded, including three Serb policemen who

were escorting the convoy." Later. Yugoslav state-run media reports claimed a convoy of 100 vehicles, including tractors and cars carrying several thousand ethnic Albanians, was attacked on the Prizren to Dakovica road in Kosovo. They also reported that bodies were strewn along

the road. Nebojsa Vujovic, the For-eign Ministry spokesman, said that the Albanians had been returning to their homes when the bombs hit killing 75 people - including six people in a house next to the road —

A Western agency reporter who was taken to the village of Meja, about three miles from the Albanian border, reported seeing 20 bodies and four injured and he watched an investigating judge counting the

bodies. A Reuters photographer took pictures of people with horrific facial injuries being treated. The road was strewn with mattresses, pillows, blan-

kets and human remains. A number of Nato aircraft. including RAF Harrier GR7s have been dropping cluster bombs in Kosovo, targeting Yugoslav forces involved in the ethnic cleansing of the Albanian population. Harrier GR7s were involved in bombing operations yesterday but



A woman lies injured amid the rubble and tractors after the bombing near the Albanian border yesterday. She was rescued and revived with water



in that part of Kosovo.

Earlier this week, a Harrier bombing raid was called off when the pilots could not decide whether a column of vehicles was a military convoy or a

line of refugees. An RAF spokesman in Gioa del Colle in Italy, where the that they had been involved in any attack on a refugee column. Group Captain Glenn Edge said: "We take any such allegation incredibly seriously", but an investigation had shown that RAF planes had

The Harriers' targets yesterday included bombing an ammunitions dump in Kosovo, which was attacked twice dur-

ing the day.

European leaders in Brussels for a summit yesterday expressed regret at the tragedy, but cautioned against taking at face value the Serb claims

about what had happened. Tony Blair said: "Anything they do they use for propagan-da purposes. We go to extraordinary lengths to limit any civilian damage or casualties.

Anything that happened in the conflict was the responsibility of President Milosevic, he added. "He is the person who has brought this Nato action upon himself. He is the person who is responsible for causing this conflict by his evil policy of ethnic cleansing. We take every measure to avoid civilian casualties. Unfortunately in a situation such as this they do sometimes happen. But I

face value anything the Serbs

The German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder agreed, saying: This is one of those ap-palling effects of war for which Milosevic is responsible. I am not minimising this, I do not know what happened. But this is one of those things that arise from military action."

Kofi Annan, the UN Secre-tary General, said: "I am extremely sorry about the tragedy. This is one more reason why we must intensify all efforts to find a solution to the

Washington meanwhile gave a cautious welcome to a six-point plan by the German Government to resolve the Kosovo crisis. Washington also welcomed a UN role in creating an international security



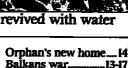
force for Kosovo. The plan, announced in Bonn by the German Foreign Ministry, sug-gested a 24-hour suspension of Nato's bombing campaign once President Milosevic had

begun to withdraw his forces Bonn also suggested that there could be a permanent end to the bombing once the pullout had been completed. and that a UN-authorised military force should be deployed to Kosovo to protect returning

Asked about the German plan, Joe Lockhart, the White House press secretary, called it constructive. However, he said: "The important thing to note here is that there will be no cessation of this air campaign until (Nato's) demands

James Rubin, the State Department spokesman, said: "The main point in the German plan that's relevant here is that this would be done ideally by resolution of the Securi-ty Council which would be fine

with us." Britain was more cautious, merely noting the German proposal and emphasising that the Nato peace plan was the



Michael Hume..

There was blood all over the ground'

IN MONICE

HUNDREDS of exhausted, tearful and badly traumatised Kosovo refugees streamed into Albania yesterday after being attacked by a bomber on the penultimate leg of their journey. Yugoslav authorities blamed Nato for the atrocity.

The refugees, mostly from Dakovica, around marched for four days without food or water. They said there were about 20 dead on two tractors and trailers. Many children were among the

wounded There seemed no doubt, after exhaustive interviews with 20 victims, that the victims had survived Serb atrocities and possibly a catastrophic Nato blunder

One said she saw a Yugoslav helicopter flying low over her convoy and circling above villages as Nato iets flew higher overhead. About an hour later she found the wreckage of two tractors, bodies, and signs

"The Serbs said it was Nato. don't know who did it, but only the Serbs want to kill us," said Hydalte Osmani.

All the other witnesses said they heard jets and then explo-Ibrahim Osmani, an elderly man, said: "The Serbs said its

was Nato. There was blood all

over the ground." Besa Spahiu said: "Yes, I saw the jets. I heard the bombs go off. It was today at between 1.30 and two. There were many dead."



said they had not been flying

Harriers are based, denied

would not believe or take at

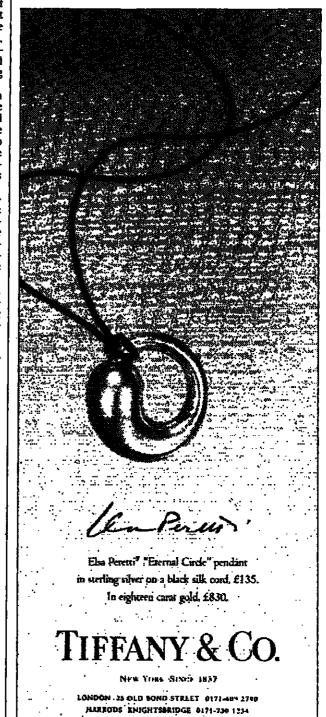
one that mattered.

AFTER a surreal echo of a Monty Python sketch, police yesterday agreed to pay £20,000 compensation to a parrot breeder (Alan Hamilton writes). Michael Liddel-Taylor

Cleese confronting the pet shop owner, and told the officer on duty that he wished to report a murder.

WEATHER LETTERS ... **OBITUARIES ...**

LAW REPORT..... BOOKS. BUSINESS.



Airbag death

Manufacturers were under pressure to warn motorists of the potential dangers of airbags after an inquest into the death of a woman in a headon collision...

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Kathryn Blair in 30,000ft | Price of an ex-parrot jumbo jet plunge

TONY BLAIR'S 11-year-old accompanied minors, was not daughter Kathryn was one of the 235 passengers on board when a jumbo jet dropped like a stone for 30 seconds after hit-

ting violent turbulence at 33,000 feet. Passengers were sent flying across the cabin as the plane approached Changi airport in Singapore. One passenger was smashed through the ceiling of the cabin. Five British people were among the 25 injured. Seven, including two of the 18 crew.

vere taken to hospital. Kathryn Blair, who had flown to Brisbane for a holi-"clear air turbulence" that lay with a young friend under struck the plane at 1.24pm Brit-

injured. Unlike many of the other passengers, the Prime Minister's daughter was wearing her seat belt when the tur-

By Andrew Pierce

British Airways sent Robert Ayling, the chief executive, to meet Kathryn at Heathrow Airport when she flew in yesterday at 9.10am on a different flight from the rest of the passengers. She was met by her grandmother, Gale Booth, m and reunited with her father and mother, Cherie. at Downing Street. There was no warning of the bulence is a a freak combination of wind and temperature. There were several doctors among the 235 passengers who administered emergency first aid. Some passengers arrived back at Heathrow Airport yesterday in wheelchairs,

braces, and slings. Others

were suffering from shock. Zamela Loftus, 52, a pub landlady, injured her neck when she was thrown upwards and her head smashed into the cabin ceiling. "When I came down I was sprawled in my husband Vincent's seat. He was lying in the aisle with the hostess on top of him."

is £20,000 for police of a macaw, the breeder said, it died of shock. The search

said that a raid had left 15 of his prized birds as ex-parrots. After the raid, Mr Liddel-Taylor, 53, took one of his deceased birds to his local police station, placed it on the counter in the manner of John

His claim for compensation was settled by agreement before it could be heard at Norwich Crown Court. The raid at Beeston, Norfolk, was on the trail of a stolen macaw. When

was also said to have spread macaw wasting disease. TV & RADIO .. CROSSWORDS ... 26,52

MICK HUME.... CHESS & BRIDGE ...47 COURT & SOCIAL24 .40-41

Wretched Prescott lurches amid smoking wreckage

MATTHEW PARRIS

eputy Prime Minis-ter! One heartheat from Britain's war leadership! As Mr Blair's second-in-command trudged from the Chamber yesterday. thunder-faced while the Opposition ieered, earnest prayers for the health of our Prime Minister winged skywards.

Commentators ransacked the metaphor of misadventure to convey the scale of his debacle as stand-in for Tony Blair at Prime Minister's Ouestions. Some called it a humanitarian catastrophe, but we will be sparing. His wheels came off. All of them. Prescott left the road, over-

CAR manufacturers were un-

der pressure last night to warn

motorists of the potential dan-

gers of airbags after an inquest into the death of a

woman from a rare skull frac-

Jennifer Reichardt, 47, was

thrown backwards in the driv-

ing seat by the force of an ex-

panding airbag, and is be-

lieved to be the first motorist

in Britain whose death has

been blamed on the safety fea-

ture, although there have been

16 deaths recorded in the Unit-

ed States since they were intro-

A jury at the inquest in St

Helens, Merseyside, brought

carmakers and ministers for

Unsworth, 56, said: "We as a

family would strongly criticise

the British motor industry, the

Department of Transport and,

failing to publicise dangers. Her partner, Kenneth

duced in the early 1980s.

ture in a head-on collision.

turned, demolished a wall, hit several trees and came to rest unturned in the smoking wreckage of his ministerial reputation. We may now never know whether Mr Prescott did know what the "withholding tax" was. it all started with Alan

Beith. The bland, blinking Beith deputised for the Liberal Democrat Leader as Blair is in Brussels and, when the Chief's away. Parliament stages a Battle of the Pygmies.

To be roughed up by somebody bigger is bad enough, but by Beith! He asked Prescott if it were true that class sizes had risen. Funk number

Car firms face

pressure after

airbag verdict

on this particular occasion, the

Rover motor group for, in our

view, glossing over the dan-

gers and the fact that every

motorist with an airbag is driv-

ing around with a bomb or

missile in their car and wear-

ing seatbelts will not, of itself,

prevent injury or death.
"We do feel the motor indus-

try has a lot to answer for and

that, following this tragedy.

they should take more positive

steps to bring the dangers to

the buyer's attention, particu-

larly when they advertise air-

St Helens, was driving her N-

registered Rover 414 at only

Miss Reichardt, of Rainhill,

bags as a safety feature."

POLITICAL SKETCH one. Too proud to admit it but too clumsy to duck, he replied that Labour was "on target" with a manifesto pledge. Reminded mildly that the an-

on target", he insisted. "No he didn't," MPs shouted. "Well that's the answer he's going to get," said

swer was Yes, he dug deeper:

Beith had "asked if we were

He lurched moments later into a tangle with Slavic proone he called "General Motherditch". Bouncing off Serbo-Croat he hit international law. referring to "war crimes and tribunial indicts".

The Deputy Prime Minister was breaking up. cool gone, spinning out of control. Clare Short tried to comfort him with whispers. He stumbled over the IRA, reminding MPs that, hanging over us, was "the sceptre of violence".

Sporting a wounded builelephant, Sir Michael Spicer aim. Could Prescott guarantee there would be no withholding tax?

Withholding tax? Panic in his eyes. Colleagues freeze, helpless to rescue. He rises. Must answer. Something with "tax" in it. He bellows about a tax he does know, the Tory poll tax. He tries a defence of the local government financial settlement.

Stunned silence all around. Have we misunderstood? Then MPs begin to laugh, howl, hoot. He ploughs wretchedly on, Margaret Beckett's face locks in embarrassed grin. "More!" they seat. That could have been the end of it but a fuse had now blown in the Prescott brain. To a question about the National Forest. Prescott's answer seemed to be about the railways; everyone barracked; Prescott explained to Madam

Speaker that he had thought he was answering a different question. Miss Boothroyd took pity and, meaning to help, told MPs to check Order Papers and see what question they were on. Confused by the laughter, Prescott took this as a reprimand — then apolo-gised to the Chair for his first apology. New questioners

(C. Worcestershire W) took shout, as he collapses into his arose. He kept losing his place in his notes. Pauses lengthened to eternities. Everyone but the Deputy

Prime Minister was in the Commons Chamber. But Mr Prescott was in a sort of cosmic vortex, his briefing notes blowing about arguments. Slav names and impossible taxes hurtling at him out of a black void, mocking laughter and Speaker's reprimands echoing from the dark.

We have all been there, my friends. Hilarity turned to embarrassment and one found it hard to look. This, without doubt, was John Prescott's longest half-hour.

'Bulldog'

Moore

hands off

Newark

approach

By ROLAND WATSON

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRIAN MOORE, the gap-

toothed "bulldog" of English rugby for much of the 1980s

and 1990s, has been courted

by Labour to become a candi-

date in next month's Newark

He was even smuggled into the Treasury for an hour-long

chat with Gordon Brown on

Monday evening in an at-tempt to persuade him to stand. But Mr Moore, a solici-

tor, has decided not to take up

the challenge. It is understood

he feels that Newark is too

risky and would prefer to hold

out for a safer seat at a general

The decision has left Labour

with a headache as to who to

field in the contest, which is

now three weeks away. The

party's National Executive By-

Election Committee met in se-

cret on Tuesday evening and

interviewed six potential candi-

dates. While Nicholas Dakin,

a teacher and leader of North

Lincolnshire council, emerged

as a possible frontrunner, sen-

ior Labour officials are contin-

uing their search.

Some leading figures at party headquarters are pinning

after being convicted of elec-

tion fraud. If the court finds in Mrs Jones's favour, it may

also direct that, in the interests

of natural justice, she be al-

lowed to retain her seat with-

Today is the final day that

the writ for the by-election can

be moved in the Commons in

time for a May 6 contest.

Labour's preferred date - the

day of the local council elec-

tions and of those for the

Scottish parliament and

out a by-election.

by-election.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A merry new year for pubs

Millennium revellers will be able to drink around the clock, the Government has announced. The Home Office said the results of a recent consultation exercise seeking views on opening hours for New Year's Eve had supported the Government's preference for an all-night relaxation of licensing hours.

The plans will allow pubs and clubs to open from liam and throughout the night on New Year's Eve, with pubs eventually returning to normal opening hours at Ilpm closing on New Year's Day.

The arrangements would come into effect in time for the Millennium celebrations and would apply to subsequent New Year's Eves. The Government added

that special powers would be put in place to limit the open-ing bours of premises causing nuisance.

Judiciary 'needs greater scrutiny

Judges should appear before Parliament to be questioned about their views on a range of political and legal matters before being appointed to top judicial posts, Liam Fox, Tory spokesman on constitutional affairs, said in a lecture to the Politeia think-tank. He said that greater scrutiny of the appointments system was needed because judges had increasingly usurped the role of elected politicians as the power of Parliament had

College claimed £6.4m too much

diminished

A further education college must repay £6.4 million after investigations found that its managers had misused public funds. Halton College, in Widnes, Cheshire, was found by the National Audit Office and Further Education Funding Council to have overclaimed funding for students. The principal and his deputy spent the equivalent of almost one year in the past five abroad on college business. and have been suspended pri-or to a disciplinary hearing.

their hopes on a Court of Appeal ruling today that could save them from having to fight the contest at all. The court is over baby death expected to rule on the appeal by Fiona Jones, who was forced out of the Newark seat

fled Britain in August 1997, days after the death from head injuries of Amos Tutt, is facing a manslaughter charge over the case, the General Medical Council said. The Crown Prosecution Service is monitoring the movements in Saudi Arabia of Helmi Nour, then at Queen Charlotte's Hospital in West London. in case he visits a country with which Britain has an extradition treaty.

Lifting lid on

Roman coffin

The mysteries of a Roman coffin found last month within a stone sarcophagus in the City of London began to be unrav-elled last night. Archaeologists from the Museum of London, which unearthed it in Spitalfields, began the process of opening the coffin. For health and safety reasons they had to wait until the last visitor had left the museum before they could lever up the ornate lid that covered the coffin for some 1,800 years. Leading article, page 23

mise will become increasingly hard as the Euro-elections ap-

proach and the marching sea-

son intensifies. None of the par-

ties wants to "park" the pro-

cess for the summer but with out a breakthrough soon that

may be the least bad option.

ure to return. "The Prime Min-

ister, having received a bloody

nose from the two parties front-

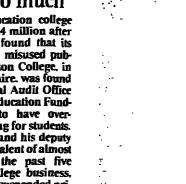
ing terrorists, Sinn Fein and

the PUP, has obviously no

stomach for a rematch," said

Cedric Wilson, of the North-

Parties opposed to the accord seized on Mr Blair's fail



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Partition Name

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No and recession

William Macin

Mod Dortman

The Nanny and

CO Insula

Doctor accused

A Sudanese obstetrician who



Moore: wants to wait for a safer Labour seat

in a verdict of accidental 19mph home from work in the early evening in January last year when she collided with a death, but Christopher Sumner, the coroner, said that the case was of such importance 13-year-old Opel Ascona on a that he would be sending a tine in such matters. bend. The driver of the other The Society of Motor Manutranscript to John Prescott, the car, which did not have an airbag, was able to walk away Transport Secretary. After the hearing, Miss from the wreckage. Reichardt's family criticised

Miss Reichardt, however. suffered an extremely rare "ring" skull fracture, which an experienced accident and emergency doctor at Whiston Hospital immediately concluded was the result of the airbag

throwing her head back on to

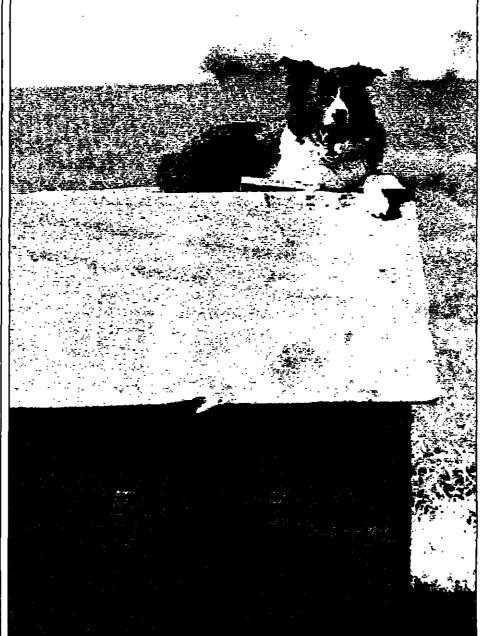
the headrest. Ernest Gradwell, a pathologist, said that Miss Reichardt's fatal injury had been caused by a blow of similar force to someone jump-

ing from the top of a building. Julian Hill. a research fellow at the Birmingham Accident Research Centre at Birmingham University, told the inquest that that Miss Reichardt was killed by the force of the expanding airbag as she was thrust forward by the accident. But he suggested that she appeared to be sitting "uncomfortably close" to the steer-

A spokesman for the Rover group said: "There is nothing we can do until we have seen the full inquest report. We are waiting for a transcript of the evidence, which is quite rou-

facturers said last night that car occupants should position their seats at the furthest reasonable distance from the

Tests are currently being carried out in Britain on "smart" airbags, which can automatically adjust to the position of each occupant.



After the storm: Brenna the border collie was left a little under the weather yesterday

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Freak tornado gives dog a lift

IT HAS been raining dogs in Suffolk, where a mini-tornado lifted a border collie off its feet and dropped it from the sky. The freak twister in Pent-

low was part of the bitterly cold weather that will plague the country until the week-end. There is also a risk of flooding as strong freezing winds and up to four inches of snow coincide with the spring high tide, particularly on the East Coast.

During yesterday's foul weather. Brenna, a border collie, took shelter in its kennel, but was lifted high in the air and smashed down again 15ft across a farmyard. Its owner. Pamela Bowers. 46. watched aghast from the kitchen window, "I heard this noise like a tractor coming down the farm drive," she said. "There was a huge gust

of wind and chairs and things started flying past the window." She saw Brenna's kennel sailing by. "It somersaulted twice. I thought, 'Oh my God, the dog's in there'." Brenna was a little shaken, but unhurt.

The Meteorological Office said that thunderstorms had given rise to this rare British tornado. Snowstorms have moved south, with the Met Office issuing warnings of more heavy snow in north Somer-sct, Bristol. south Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

This extreme version of April showers may continue beyond the weekend. Those who may benefit are the 30.000 runners in the London Marathon on Sunday, when it is forecast to be 11C.

Welsh assembly.

Deal 'is up to Ulster parties'

THE sense of pessimism af-flicting Northern Ireland's peace process was fuelled last night when Downing Street all but ruled out a fresh visit to Belfast by the Prime Minister

Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, had been expected to fly to the Province today were there a genuine prospect of breaking the deadlock over IRA disarmament, but a Downing Street spokesman said that Mr Blair's intervention was now "pretty unlikely".

Betraying a degree of exas-peration, he said Mr Blair had got a lot on his plate and we are at the stage where it's up to the parties to make some progress ... It is for the parties to come up with suggestions. If they don't like the sug-gestions on the table they can come up with their own."

Mr Blair, Mr Ahern and Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, are expected to meet in London today to

try to chart a way forward. At Stormont yesterday the parties held a second successive day of talks, but there was no sign of any progress or of Trimble's Ulster Unionist Par-

Downing Street sees no point in a Blair visit, reports Martin Fletcher

their presenting any new ideas for resolving the impasse caused by the IRA's refusal to start decommissioning its weapons and the refusal of David Trimble, the First Minister, to admit Sinn Fein to an

executive until it does. On a day of growing ran-cour the Women's Coalition joined Sinn Fein and the Progressive Unionist Party in criticising the Hillsborough Declaration - the plan issued by the two Prime Ministers before Easter to break the impasse by removing any connotations of surrender from the act of de-

commissioning.
Gerry Adams, president of
Sinn Fein, who insists there are no preconditions on its admission to the executive, challenged the governments to say whether they had abandoned last year's Good Friday accord in favour of the declaration. Dr Mowlam insisted the declaration was merely one way of implementing the accord. Mr

ty accused Sinn Fein of trying to bully the governments into abandoning the principle of de-

commissioning.
"We are facing a difficult time: no one is trying to hide that." Dr Mowlam conceded. She emphasised that all the parties remained committed to the peace process. She was sure that "we will all keep talk-

ing however long that takes". The search for a compro- ern Ireland Unionist Party.

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with everybody."

Miss Robinson's family, who live in Axbridge, Somerset, were notified yesterday morning and Mr Robinson latidentified his daughter's body. She had been staying

Mr Beavis said: "Her family is devastated. One of the most



Clear air turbulence is biggest cause of air injuries, write Nigel Hawkes and Arthur Leathley

type that made a British Airways Boeing 747 plunge 1,000 feet on a flight to Singapore vesterday can turn a smooth flight into a roller-coaster ride in seconds.

An aircraft can fall hundreds of feet so quickly that anything not held down, including passengers and crew, becomes a missile. Food, drinks, luggage and bodies crash into the cabin ceiling before turnbling down again.

Turbulence caused by cloud or heavy weather can usually be avoided. But there is less chance of dodging turbulence that emerges from a clear sky. It causes more injuries than any other type of in-flight accident, with flight crew bearing the brunt.

The experience is terrifying, as passengers fear that the aircraft will break up. Modern aircraft are built to survive such incidents and almost invariably do. But it is bard to believe that as the cabin becomes



A passenger from flight BA016, Natalie Caswell

a mélèe of objects flying

around. Turbulence has a number of possible causes. One of the commonest occurs along the edges of the jet stream, a narrow band of high-altitude wind which blows west to east around the world at a height of 30,000ft or more. "Where you get a rapid change of wind speed, either at the edges of the jet stream, or at different heights within it, there is a dan-Cussen, a Met Office aviation forecaster.

He compares the situation to a mountain stream which is flowing fast but smoothly in the centre and more slowly. but equally smoothly, along the edges. In between these two smooth flows there are swirls and eddies, the equivalent of clear air turbulence. The area of turbulence is

CLEAR air turbulence of the localised and can come and go. Sometimes, when three aircraft fly through the same piece of sky, "the first experiences turbulence and so does the last, but the one in the middie has no trouble".

> such cases is a lozenge-shaped and perhaps 100 miles wide, lying along the length of the jet stream. Forecasters look for abrupt changes in wind speed distance of six nautical miles clear air 'turbulence. Winds are not the only cause, Mr Cussen said. Long ridges and troughs of high and low pressure in the upper atmosphere can become destabilised, causing turbulent spots, or downdraughts and updraughts sur-

> toss aircraft around. An incident on a United Airlines flight between Tokyo and Honolulu in December 1997, which killed one person and in-jured 110, was caused by turbulence close to a thunderstorm. The terrain below can also create turbulence, as in the BOAC Boeing 707 crash that killed 124 people in the lee of Mount Fuji in 1966.

tively uncommon over Europe but in America airlines have introduced a "belt-up" policy throughout flights to reduce inburden to keep the seat belt fastened if you are seated," said United Airlines when the policy was introduced last year.

British airlines reported II incidents last year in which clear air turbulence caused some form of injury, however minor. The most common consequence was members of cabin crew suffering scratches when an object fell out of a galley or overhead locker.

A jet hitting clear air turbu-lence — which is undetectable by conventional radar - is in effect pitched into a vortex. turning violently to left and right while suddenly dropping or rising by 1,500ft and be-

tor training for the danger and learn from experience how to handle the temporarily unstaate remedy is to gain or lose altitude quickly, and generally this is quite possible as long as the aircraft is not out of control spokesman for the British Air-

line Pilots Association. believe that pilots have forewarning of turbulence, it is because of incidents such as that affecting BA016 that airlines

The area of turbulence in region up to 1,000 miles long - by more than 60 knots in a when seeking to forecast rounding thunderclouds can

Clear air turbulence is relajuries. "We don't think it's a

Pilots do not receive simula-

- which is very rare," said a

Although most passengers

HOW CLEAR AIR TURBULENCE CAUSED HAVOC ON FLIGHT BA016 British Airways Boeing 747 fight BA016 at an altitude of 33,000ft with 235 passengers and 18 crew hit clear air turbulence and dropped about 1,000ft Breened Blernt C tort -BRITISH AIRWA round the cabin, some fracturing limbs and 22 fering sprains, heavy **CLEAR AIR TURBULENCE** Turbulence is caused when a fast moving jet stream

increasingly advise passengers to wear seat belts throughout the journey. The destructive power of clear air turbulence, which can also strike in mountainous areas and close to thunderstorms, was shown in America in 1992 when a DC-8 cargo aircraft had an engine and a 19ft section of a

meets a stream of slower moving air. The turbulence

where the streams meet can cause vortices violent

enough to throw a plane up or down

wing ripped off.

Despite the damage, the aircraft, flying over the Rocky Mountains, managed to land safely. Two years ago, a United Airlines jumbo flying between Honolulu and Tokyo was hit so badly that a 32-yearold Japanese woman died as she was catapulted to the ceiling during a sudden 1.000 feet

Although its is invisible to the radar equipment that allows aircraft to avoid storms, scientists in America are perfecting an alternative laser technology which will be density. The system, known as Light Detection and Ranging, or Lidar, emits energy pulses before using feedback to compare it with the circumstances in which clear air turbulence is known to occur.

It is hoped that Lidar could provide pilots with a 60-second warning to tell passengers and crew to put on their seat-

Kathryn rescued from spill on holiday

The 747 contin

Singapore where it landed safely 50 minutes later

ues its flight to

By Sue Lappeman and Andrew Pierce

get home, you can tell your

ish Prime Minister's daugh-

ter. The little girl had been

dead quiet through the whole

wife you just rescued the Brit-

IT WAS an adventurous hofiday for Kathryn Blair. Only days before the drama in the air, she was in adrift in water after being thrown from a jetski in a tropical storm.

Kathryn, II, and family friends were on a three-seater jetski which overturned on the Gold Coast Canal on Saturday afternoon. The English girl and an Australian couple had to be rescued by Nat Prendergast, 31, who saw them struggling to get back on to their jetski in front of his canal-front home at Sorrento at

4.30pm. "They got the jetski up again but they couldn't get it to start," said Mr Prenderble, it was pouring with rain. I called out to them that they could tie up at my jetty until they could get it going but they called out that the motor was just flooded and it would be OK in about 10 minutes. 1 looked out half an hour later and they were still on the jet-ski in the rain and drifting." All were wearing wetsuits. Mr Prendergast, a sales man-

ager, picked them up in his speedboat. "They were very grateful," he said. "They jumped in my boat and I towed their jetski back to where they were staying." He was directed to a large riverside house a couple of miles away in Broadbeach Waters where an anxious group of adults was waiting for them. They all had cameras out and were taking photos of their mishap," he said." "As the guy was getting off my boat, he said, "When you

Blair with Kathryn: she was rescued after fall from jetski She had a wet suit on but she

was very cold. When they got off they were all very thankful and she thanked me as well. I them all to have a nice

day and then I went home." It is understood that Kathryn had been visiting the family of an Australian Labour Party

vist who got to know Tony

Blair at Oxford University. Mr Blair lived in Adelaide between 1955 and 1958 when his father, Leo, was a law lecturer at the city's university.

The Prime Minister has other close connections with Australia. His spiritual mentor. the Rev Peter Thomson. whom he also met at Oxford, has a remote ranch 30 miles from Victoria. Mr Thomson, who is widely credited with in-stilling in Mr Blair many of his political beliefs, is now working in London's East End. His wife, Helen, speaking from their ranch on a 160-acre estate at Merrijig, said: "We did not know Kathryn was in Australia. The main thing is she is safe. She had a more adventurous holiday than she bargained for."

More for your money at Sainsbury's.

Murdered girl Retired major was 'excellent' beaten to death by neighbour Millfield pupil

By CHRISTINE MIDDAP

A GIRL of 17, murdered after a birthday celebration with friends on Monday night, was a student at Millfield school, police said yesterday.

The naked body of Ashleigh Robinson was found early on Tuesday in a driveway off a residential road in Guildford. She had been strangled and had possibly been sexually

Detective Superintendent John Beavis, of Guildford police, said that Miss Robinson had been out with a group of nearly 50 friends celebrating three birthdays. She had become separated from them and had been seen on closedcircuit television leaving Cinderella's nightclub in central Guildford with a man at about

11.40pm. Mr Beavis said Miss Robinson was an intelligent young woman who had studied hard in the upper sixth at Millfield. the £15,000-a-year co-educational school at Street, Somerset. She had been studying A levels in physics, chemistry and mathematics and had had offers from four universities, where she was planning to study psy-

chology and philosophy.

"She has been described as a bouncy, full-of-fun girl with a wicked sense of humour," Mr Beavis said. "She had lots of friends and she got along



the police service was to speak

Peter Johnson, headmaster at Millfield, said: "Ashleigh was a popular day-girl in her final year, who was an excellent student. She was a fine fencer, reaching national standard at the foil. She was a highly respected all-round student." Her brother and sister had been pupils at the school.

29, on suspicion of murder.

Books, page 40-41

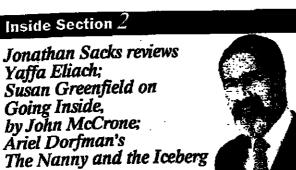
Ashleigh: was pictured

leaving a nightclub

to Mr Robinson."

Police have arrested a single, unemployed man, aged

last August.



A RETIRED army major died after being struck with a walking stick when a ten-year dispute with his neighbour came to a head, a court was

After repeatedly hitting Major Anthony Jones, 82, on the head, Eric Nicholls, 63, is alleged to have said in a 999 call: "I want to report I have just given someone a good hitting with my walking stick and I don't think they are in a very good condition." Mr Nicholls, a former car salesman, later told police he felt no remorse, the court was told.

A post-mortem examination showed that Major Jones, a retired rocket scientist who led a team behind enemy lines to find sites of V2 bombs during the Second World War, had been struck 14 times. He suffered fractures to his skull, arms and pelvis, and a brain haemorrhage, in the attack

Julian Baughan, QC, for the prosecution, told Kingston Crown Court that the two men had gone into business in 1986. They extracted gravel from Mr Nicholis's land and created a gravel pit



Nicholls: reported attack with walking stick

on land belonging to both men. However, by 1990 solici-tors were brought in over disputed boundaries.

In police interviews, Mr Nicholls admitted that he had battered his neighbour at a disused graveyard in Sulhamstead, near Reading, after learning that Major Jones had allowed men on to his land to shoot with air rifles.

Mr Nicholls, who lived 50 yards from the dead man in Sulhamstead, told police that, as Major Jones went down, he brought the stick down as hard as he could on the back of his neck. "It was a solid blow like a

ball hitting a cricket bat in the right place. I feel a sense of relief, yes, that he is dead." Major Jones's body, with his black labrador, Gunty, sitting at his feet, was found by a friend.

Mr Nicholls admits responsibility for the killing but denies murder. The trial con-



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Oxford takes a punt on pedalos

Alex O'Connell test-drives a boat that has offended Cherwell purists

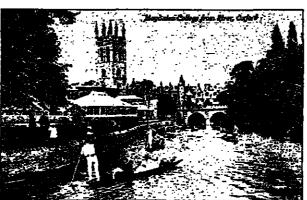
THE graceful art of punting down the Cherwell is under threat from a new breed of pedalo, identical in shape to a punt, but lacking the pole. The candy-striped, pedal-pow-ered craft, introduced last month at Magdalen Bridge Boathouse in Oxford, have outraged purists Magdalen College.

- 1 APRIL 15 1999

"I think it's a monstrous carbuncle and the first step in the Disneyfication of Oxford." Ben Johnson, president of the Junior Common Room. said. "The only mitigating factor is that the most common punting customers are Italians, who are not natural sailors. They may find the pedals easier than the pole."

Stewart Wood, Junior Dean, fellow of the college and speechwriter for Tony Blair, was equally offended. "It looks like the sort of punt they'd use in a Cornetto ad," he said yesterday. "It's horrendous. Tourists will not know whether they are in Venice or

Howard & Son, which runs the boathouse, commissioned the craft from Damian Brown, who has a boat-building business in Witney. The fibreglass pedalos, which have detachable canopies.



with £3,500 for a traditional wooden punt. They cost £10 an hour to hire, compared with £9 for a punt. They are proving popular with Span-ish, Italian and German tourists, and Andrew Howard, a partner in the business with his father, Derrick, expects to have up to eight in operation by midsummer.

He believes that, rather than pushing the traditional punts off the water, the pedalos will provide an alternative for users short on co-ordination and manual dexterity. The reaction has been good

so far," said Mr Howard, whose family has run the comcost £2.500 each, compared pany for nearly 100 years. The pedalos are bright, attractive and good fun. When we look at the old punts, they are a brown colour, which is a bit dull. These are more cheerful. They worked very well over

Easter with tourists. They can

relate to pedalos." The pedalo's fibreglass bottom feels shakier than a punt's solid wood floor. For the feet to reach the pedals, the user must slouch into a position that leaves the head halfway down the seat back — a posture more traditionally adopted by the riders of "chopper" motorcycles. While he or she is spared the embarrassment of dropping the pole or soaking the

with all the dignity and poise The pedalo, which has a rudder, is easier to manoeuvre to the left or right, but is

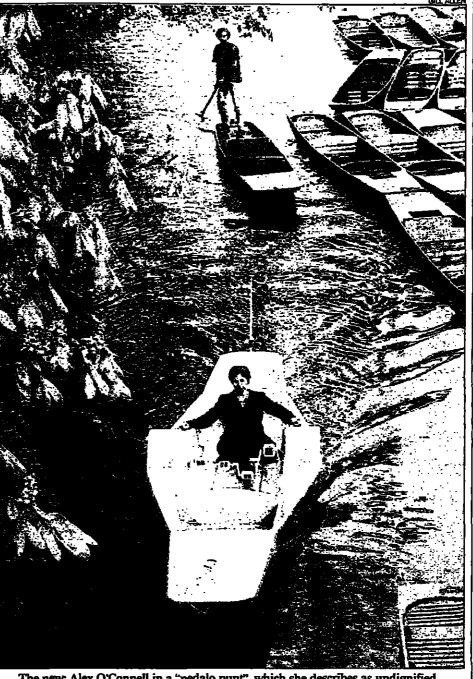
difficult to steer precisely. Rather than gliding swan-like down the river, it shuffles along like an overenthusiastic doggie paddler. Luke Bevans, 21, a thirdyear history student at Magdalen, was concerned

that the pedalo would be a less romantic vehicle for evenings on the river. "It will not woo the girls in the same way, and anything that is not as good at impressing the ladies has to be a bad thing." Lucy Shackleton, a third-

vear Classics student at Girton College, Cambridge, and a punt guide on the Cam, said the pedalo punts were unlikely to catch on there. "I can't see Cambridge resorting to that method, but here the punters are more refined than at Oxford."

Mr Johnson retorted: That's rubbish, they are the sort of tacky thing that would become extremely popular at Cambridge."

Kevin Sproule, 30, who works for Howard & Son, said: "The tourists will love them. So it doesn't really matter what the students think."



The new: Alex O'Connell in a "pedalo punt", which she describes as undignified

Mardi Gra bomber is jailed for 21 years

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

EDGAR PEARCE, the Mardi Gra bomber, was jailed for 21 years at the Old Bailey yesterday for a blackmail and bombing campaign "motivated by greed and an insatiable appe-

tite for notoriety".

Sentencing Pearce, 61, from Chiswick, West London, for a series of attacks over 314 years against Barclays Bank and Sainsbury, Michael Hyam. the Recorder of London, told him that his devices had injured people and could have

He told Pearce, a former advertising executive and restau-rant owner, that he had shown "a cynical disregard for the physical and mental safety of the public.

The judge said that a great deal of public money had been spent to catch him and that Barclays had been forced to spend an extra £140,000 in security measures.

Last week Pearce admitted 20 offences including blackmail, causing explosions, causing actual bodily harm, unlawwounding and firearms offences. Yesterday the judge rejected a plea for him to be sent to Broadmoor and told him that his guilty plea was inevitable because of the evidence against him.

He told Pearce that he must serve a long sentence to protect the public and deter others.

Thomas Stuttaford, page 20

Survival group leader 'killed by best friends'

By RICHARD DUCE

THE leader of a college survivalist group called The Brother-hood was stabbed to death by his two closest friends, who burnt and dismembered his body before it was buried in a shallow grave, a court was told vesterday. Russell Crookes, 17, was

murdered as he walked in woods he styled "training grounds" near Hadlow Coi lege in Kent, set in 640 acres outside Tonbridge, where be and his alleged killers studied horticulture. The reason his friends turned on him may have been because the teenager, who weighed 14 stone, had become a bully and called them names.

Maidstone Crown Court was told yesterday that Graham Wallis, 18, and Neil Sayers, 19, stabbed him repeatedly in the chest with two knives as they walked together in the woods in May last year. His body was then doused in bar-



of teenage group

becue lighter fluid and his right leg cut off. The two students then returned to college to stock up on orange juice and biscuits before returning to the murder scene.

The remains of Mr Crookes, of Walderslade, near Chat-

ham, Kent, were doused with orange juice before the body was moved 200 vards and buried amid stinging nettles.

Wallis, from Croydon, South London, has admitted murder and is the main prosecution witness against Mr Say-

ers, who denies the charge. Wallis is expected to tell today bow his victim, who liked books about war and survival, was killed in the early ours of May 14. Yesterda Wallis described how Mr Crookes had begun to get on his nerves by calling him "Lord Ponsonby" and Mr Sayers "Pansy" because he thought the latter might be gay. He also took to calling

them Wallace and Gromit. Wallis was on half-term holiday in Shrewsbury with his parents when he was arrested. Mr Sayers, of Gillingham, Kent, said he had no part in the killing and that Mr Crookes had been alive when he last saw him.

The case continues today.

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Recruit more minorities. police are told

resent today's multicultural society by recruiting 8.000 officers from ethnic minorities within ten years, chief constables were told by the Home Secretary yesterday. Asian officers in Jack Straw also ordered forc-

es to stanch the flow of black and Asian officers quitting early and to increase their representation at senior levels.

Mr Straw told chief constables at a Home Office conference on ethnic recruiting that he wanted every force to reflect its local ethnic minorities within ten years. He said said that he was not talking about quotas and telling forces to employ officers because of the colour of their skin, but rather was setting achievable targets to make the police representa-

If forces could not meet their targets, Mr Straw said that they would have to explain why they had failed. They

Home Secretary orders an extra 8.000 black and

ten years, writes **Stewart Tendler**

would also have to show that they were setting realistic targets and suggest how long it would take them to reach the

About 7 per cent of the popu-lation in England and Wales is black or Asian, but these minorities form only 2 per cent of police officers. Mr Straw said that, without a kick start, he could see little chance of police reaching a proper ethnic balance in the next 25 years. He told the conference that

come "a service that is part of the community, not apart from it". Every force should have at least 1 per cent of its officers from ethnic minorities. he said.

He pointed out that Britain had a transient population: although minorities represented only 0.1 per cent of the population of Cumbria, the area attracted millions of visitors of all races. Greater Manchester had a minority population of 7.5 per cent, while Cheshire had 0.3 per cent, yet many black and Asian Mancunians visited or worked in Cheshire.

Metropolitan Police will be expected to find and keep a further 5,662 officers from ethnic minorities and the West Midlands force must recruit 862. Gwent, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Suffolk are already on target.

The targets mean that the

Police must also stop offic-

RECRUITMENT TARGETS: A FORCE FOR THE FUTURE the target Avon and Somerset 25 Bedfordshire 68 19 14 City of London 7.3 38 Cleveland 35 10 22 Devon and Commall 25 Dorest 1* **Dyted Powys** .1* 12 1.94 1.57 7.58 356 1.06 on target 1:98 42 Hampshire 60 4.71 Humberside 1.09 11 51 123 Lancashire 104



÷ · · ·	population	needed to meet the target
Lincolnshire	1,2	7
Merseyside	2.04	14
Metropolitan Police	25.5	5,662
Norfolk		on target
Northamptonshire	2.32	on target
Northumbria	1.47	25
North Wales	11	13
North Yorkshire	1.3	11
Nottinghamshire	3.52	20
South Wales	1.47	12
South Yorkshire	3.27	35
Staffordshire	1.82	9
Suffolk	1.08	on target
Surrey	3.21	32
Sussex	2.37	47
Thames Valley	5.35	132
Warwickshire	3.99	14
West Mercla	1.96	
West Midlands	16.11	862
West Yorkshire	9.45	345
Wiltshire	1.79	. <u> </u>
* Figures set at 1% for a	reas below 1%	Source: Home Office

extra officers

ers from ethnic minorities quitting. Mr Straw told the conference that Home Office research published yesterday disclosed that candidates from mi-

norities were less likely to be offered an interview, receive a formal offer or become full of-ficers at the end of their probationary periods. Black and Asian officers are twice as likely to resign from the police as

white officers and the rate of dismissal is two to three times higher than the rate for white

It also takes a year longer for black and Asian officers to become sergeants and much longer to become inspectors. There are only seven Asian or black superintendents among 1,237 police of that rank. Only one ethnic minority officer has

reached the rank of assistant chief constable: Tarique Ghaffur in the Lancashire force. No blacks or Asians have been selected for the fast-track scheme for junior officers in the past

three years. From next year the Home Office is setting targets so that the percentage of officers from ethnic minorities being promoted should be the same as

the percentage of white officers being promoted to the same ranks. The percentage of officers who leave should be similar to the percentage for

white officers. The Association of Chief Police Officers and the Association of Police Authorities welcomed the targets. John Newing. Chief Constable of Derbyshire and president of Acpo. said that the issue of recruiting was fundamental to the future of the police. Sir Paul Condon. Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said the targets were formidable but would

have to be met. Ali Disaei, vice-chairman of the Black Police Association. said the targets were achievable but reaching them would

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Power Steering	standard	standard	standard	standard	standard
Electric Front Windows	standard	standard	not available	not available	standard
Alloy Wheels	standard	dealer fit only	not available	not available	not available
Metallic Paint	standard	£250	£250	£250	£215.03
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SAVINGS BY DEALING DIRECT? THAT'LL BE THE NO DAEWOOVALUE

Black paper is cleared over Lawrence five

By Andrew Pierce

A BLACK newspaper that encouraged its readers to hunt down the five young men suspected of killing Stephen Lawrence has been exonerated by the Press Complaints Com-

The watchdog has rejected a complaint by the parents of the five that the article in New Nation breached their privacy, encouraged a campaign of harassment and was an incitement to racial hatred.

The ruling comes as Gary Dobson, one of the suspects, was preparing to answer calls for 60 minutes this morning on Talk Radio's breakfast show. "We did not pay him. He approached us," said a

Talk Radio spokeswoman. The solicitor for Stephen's parents, Doreen and Neville Lawrence, said yesterday that he had asked Talk Radio to scrap the programme as it could jeopardise the continu-ing investigation into the murder. Imran Khan said that he would consider legal action to prevent the broadcast.

The ruling of the Press Complaints Commission. chaired by the former Tory Cabinet minister Lord Wakeham, is expected to be pubTimes has learnt that it will reject the parents' charge that the article was an invasion of privacy which was responsible for endangering the fami-lies. The PCC will say the complaint of incitement to racial hatred would be a matter for the police, not the media

In an article last September beadlined "Do you know where they live?" New Nation suggested that Jamie and Neil Acourt, Gary Dobson. Luke Knight and David Norris should be visited at home.

One passage said: "There are many of us in the community who would like to visit them and offer our suggestions as to how their media image or indeed their facial features may be enhanced." The families maintained

that while their addresses had been read out at the inquest, and at the Macpherson inomiry, it was a different matter for them to be displayed in a national publication.

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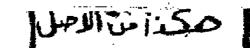
CONTRACTS

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10W 21/27

New Nation argued that because of the prolonged history of the Lawrence affair, it was already in the public





HOME NEWS 7

Soya is 'HRT

without

cancer

risk'

By Susie Steiner

EATING or drinking soya products could be of greater

benefit to menopausal wom-

en than hormone replace-

Soya, which is oestrogen-

rich, is eaten as a staple in

Japan. China and Indone-

sia. It is said to reduce the

effects of the menopause as

well as protecting against

heart disease, osteoporosis

Eastern women, research has found, suffer less than

those in the West from the

hot flushes and dizziness

that are a side-effect of the

ment therapy, it

claimed yesterday.

and breast cancer.

Why we still want to be British

Brown hails survey for showing shared values that will survive devolution, writes Peter Riddell

THE sense of being British is failed to adjust. A centrepiece alive and well, according to a new poll to be highlighted today by Gordon Brown against the background of devolution for Scotland and Wales. An overwhelming majority still believe that it is right for all parts of Britain to work together. and institutions such as the NHS and the Army are highly valued for showing Britain in a positive light.

The Chancellor will use a major speech on "Britishness" to argue that people in all parts of Britain have shared values and believe that they are stronger and better off to-gether. Interviewed in his Commons office, Mr Brown was aiming his words both at separatists in the Scottish National Party and at English nationalists in the Conservative Party.

"The constitutional reform programme truly expresses British values in action," he said. "We define ourselves not on the basis of borders, but on the basis of our values." Devolution is no threat to the exist-

ence of Britain, he believes. Not content to be merely the chief executive of new Labour. Mr Brown is also its chief ideologist. He has become a major presence in the Scottish election campaign. Today he makes the case for Britain as one nation at a London conference organised by the Smith Institute. He argues that uncerrainties about Britain's future are not because people have

of the conference will be a telephone poll of 1,000 people at the turn of the year by Debo-rah Mattinson, of Opinion Leader Research. Asked if they personally identified "very" or "quite" closely with being British, 73 per cent said "Yes", including 67 per cent in in Scotland and 65 per cent in Wales.

An overwhelming majority believe it is a good argument for the union that "it is impor-tant for England, Scotland and Wales to work together to be a strong force in the new global economy" - backed by 84 per cent in Britain, 81 per cent in Scotland and 89 per cent in Wales. About three quarters in each part of Britain agreed that "the people of Britain derive positive benefits from living and working to-gether and about two thirds agreed that "no Briton should be a foreigner in a British country and it would be wrong for the British to have to use passports within Britain".

Some 80 per cent in Britain, 75 per cent in Scotland and 88 per cent in Wales agreed that "it is important for England, Scotland and Wales to work together because we share a set of common values and concerns". In contrast, 31 per cent across Britain agreed that "Britain has had its day - the future lies with Europe". In Scotland, 43 per cent agreed.

All parts of Britain put the NHS top of a list of national institutions that show Britain in a favourable light - 91 per cent across Britain, 95 per cent



in Scotland and 85 per cent in Wales. The Army was second. some way ahead of the House of Commons and the BBC.

Mr Brown argues that the British are not simply selfint erested but believe in "indiservice, as well as respect for individual liberty". Britain is "not a country where people mistrust foreigners or retreat into isolationism, but are open to outside interests and experi-

victual fair play, fairness, hard What went wrong was that does not hold together but is, bined. People are "quite com-work, tolerance and public institutions ceased properly to rather, a response to separate fortable with being Scottish

reflect shared values. Mr Brown specifically responded to critics who argue that constitutional reform - devolution, local government reform, the Lords, the Bill of Rights and freedom of information —

pressures. He says that it is a coherent programme expressing shared values and "the shift from subjects to citizens". All the evidence is that a strong sense of local and national identity can be comand British, or Cornish, English and British". For Mr Brown, British history is not the story of an unchanging constitution, but rather that of experimentation, adaptability and local centres of power, of

his views on film again.

In the new version, Mr Ford

says: "We need a much tighter defi-

nition of citizenship as exists in America, France and Germany.

"In order to gain citizenship, one would have to have lived here for

at least seven years, to have studied

the constitution at evening classes

and to have sat an examination in

reading and writing to prove that

Counterblast is on BBC2 on

one knows the language."

body's loss of oestrogen during the menopause. They also have lower incidences of breast cancer and lower cholesterol levels. Professor Kenneth Setchell, who discovered plant oes-

trogen while working for the Medical Research Council in the 1970s, said yesterday: "Soya can offer a natural source of HRT, but I would stress that it is not as powerful as HRT. Perhaps what women can gain is getting oestrogen from their diet without the side-effects of HRT. The evidence is very encouraging at present." One of the main anxieties

about chemical HRT is an increased risk of breast cancer. While the loss of oestrogen during the menopause trig-gers a rise in cholesterol and the threat of osteoporosis, replacement oestrogen can stimulate the growth of cancerous tumours.

Plant oestrogen, however, behaves differently. They have the ability to act as hormones but they can also do a similar job to tamoxifen [the breast cancer drug], which binds oestrogen receptors, so in one way it acts as an anti-oestrogen," said Professor Setchell, attending the British Nutrition Foundation conference on functional foods in Kent yesterday.

Animal trials in America had shown that consumption of soya reduced the rate

Loans

National counterblast proves too strong for BBC Mr Ford and asked him to clarify

WHEN a patriotic Englishman was asked by the BBC to speak the unspeakable about national pride, he did so heartily and was invited to think again. The forthright nationalism of Alan Ford, a factory worker from Leicester, was no match for the earnest caution of Philip Harding, the BBC's controller of editorial policy.

Mr Ford is the star of next Tuesday's Counterblast, a BBC 2 series produced by the BBC Community Programme Unit to provide a soap-box for holders of unorthodox opinions.

Dominic Kennedy on an Englishman's viewpoint that dare not speak its name

In the programme, titled "The race that dare not speak its name", the guest proclaims his pride in being white. Anglo-Saxon, English and working class. He calls for an Einglish parliament, in York, which would ban immigration from n onwhite countries, outlaw arranged marriages, and pay for voluntary

In Britain today we are not allish," Mr Ford says. "The midelle- tend to deny the ballot?

class media and the intellectuals are forever sneering at England and I for one have just about had enough. The English are discriminated against. It's time for the English to receive fair and equal treatment in our own country."

It was Mr Ford's blatant de-

mand for voting rights to his pro-posed English parliament to be restricted which proved maccepta-ble to the BBC. Whom did he in-

Because the opinions in Counterblast are sensitive and liable to cause offence, each programme is discussed in detail with Mr Harding, a former award-winning producer of Radio 4's Today.

Mr Harding, who is English, has been accused of pandering to the Celtic fringe. He is behind a new book of BBC guidelines. Changing UK, which says England

the use of "the nation" as a cuphe mism for the United Kingdom. Critics say Mr Harding's reputation for being too careful deters some programme-makers from taking their problems to him. He was responsible for the controversial BBC ban on discussion of Pe-

ter Mandelson's homosexuality. After discussions between Counterblast's executive producer Debbe described as British, and bans programme makers returned to Online www.bbc.co.uk

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Anger over Pinochet charges

Supporters claim new allegations filed by Spain to bolster case for extradition have been trumped up

> By JOANNA BALE, GABRIELLA GAMINI AND GILES TREMLETT

SUPPORTERS and opponents of General Augusto Pinochet were locked in a dispute yesterday over new charges sent by Spain to Britain to bolster the extradition case

As the general waited under house arrest for a fresh decision by the Home Secretary. which is expected today, his supporters claimed that the new charges had not been authenticated, Fernando Barros, the former Chilean dictator's legal adviser, claimed that several of the 33 new cases sent in the past two weeks were minor cases of police brutality against ordinary criminals.

His claims were vigorously contested by prosecution lawyers helping the Spanish invesjudge, Baltasar Garzón, in his attempt to extradite the former dictator.

The controversy came on the eve of Jack Straw's decision on whether to allow General Pinochet's extradition in the wake of the second law lords' ruling. The law lords re-cently ruled that the general had no immunity from extradition, but that he could only be



Pictures in Santiago of those who disappeared during General Pinochet's dictatorship. Spanish lawyers say new allegations have been authenticated

extradited for torture cases that were alleged to have occurred after Britain signed the International Convention on

Torture in September 1988. Señor Barros said: "These are cases of common criminals who were allegedly abused by the police. There is no reason to connect them to the president of the country." But prosecutors and human

rights groups said that all of

the charges forwarded to the Crown Prosecution Service. which has been instructed by the Spanish Government to act on its behalf, had been independently verified. Prosecuting lawyers in Madrid said that they had presented Judge Garzón with almost 100 new cases and that he had selected

only those that he thought

were well documented.

to London after the CPS asked Judge Garzon for fresh evidence against General Pinochet the day after the law lords' ruling. The CPS specifically asked for new cases that were alleged to have occurred after September 1988.

The Spanish judge, who had received some 85 further charges, sent on 33 new cases to add to the eight on the original charge sheet sent to London several months ago. Alun Jones, QC, who represents the CPS, was handed a list of II more names when he visited Judge Garzón in Madrid last

Senor Barros, a Santiago lawyer studying for a PhD in London, said that Judge Garzón was abusing the extradition convention by failing to investigate cases before add-

GUARANTEES

He said that new cases had been compiled by communistbacked human rights activists.

Madrid said that they had always used more than one source for their cases. Most cases featured either in official Chilean human rights reports or in reports from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, they said.

A spokeswoman for the CPS denied that the extradition convention was being abused, and said that Judge Garzon was not required to give full de-tails of the charges until the committal hearing, much later in the process. "The Home Secretary makes his decision based on the type of offences being alleged and the background to them. At the committal, magistrates have to consider what the charges are and whether they are extraditable. The evidence isn't really tested until it gets to Madrid." she

Prosecutors in Madrid said that the extradition treaty as-sumed that British and Spanish courts trusted each other when they said there was sufficient evidence to bring charges. "That is why Spanish courts do not ask to see prima facie evidence before extraditing people wanted in Britain,"

These are cases of | common criminals abused by the police?

cused Señor Barros of spreading "deliberate disinformation" ahead of Jack Straw's decision. They said that more than half of the 14 cases provided by Señor Barros as examples of Judge Garzon not bothering to check evidence were not on the lists sent to London.

Many of the sources used by Señor Garzón have been the subject of controversy in Chile. The National Truth and Reconciliation Report, comissioned by the democratically elected government of Patricio Aylwin in 1990, and more commonly known as the Rettig Report, listed 2025 people killed during Pinochet's 17-year rule. Of these. 957 had disappeared and 90 were killed by civilians in political clashes. A second government report published in 1996 added nearly 1,000 more names to the list.

The reports had no judicial weight in Chile, and the Rettig Report faced heavy opposition from the right-wing military and political parties alligned to the general. There were frequent death threats against the commission members. Patrick Robertson, General

Pinochet's British spokesman, said that the case against the general was seriously flawed. "Garzón is making serious

mistakes in his personal vendetta against Senator Pinochet in a desperate attempt to keep the case going," he said.

CORRECTION

A report (Pupils turn GCSEs into a comedy of errors. April 12) wrongly attributed 20 schoolboy howlers to GCSE candidates. In fact, the mistakes were those of students in the United States and were entirely unrelated to schools and educational standards in the United Kingdom. We reCLASH OVER CASEBOOKS

Activist died of electric shock

WILSON Valdebenito Juica. 28. was a left-wing activist whose violent death at the hands of the police appears to confirm official torture even in the final days of the Pinochet regime (Giles Tremlett

Señor Valdebenito, who was married, worked in the mining region of Cabildo as a *pirquinero*. a freelance searching abandoned copper mines for minerals. His case is one of the eight included in Baltasar Garzon's original charge sheet. which the investigating magistrate sent to London before the law lords decided that General Pinochet could be extradited only for cases after Britain's 1988 ratification of the Torture

Convention. Señor Valdebenito's case is clearly acceptable for study by a Spanish court. because of the date, evidence and the nature of the victim. "And remember, you only need one case to extradite somebody," one of the Spanish prosecution lawyers said yesterday. On December 15, 1988, a

week after the Torture

Convention became law in Britain, Señor Valdebenito was picked up by police as he left a bar. As secretary of the local branch of the Pirquineros Union, he was involved in organising the miners.

A few bours later, his body was discovered dumped by a country road. The corpse had been badly burnt by electric shocks. A blue electric cable was wrapped tightly around his right wrist and threaded through the beit loops in his trousers.

"He had been in contact with a high electric charge which provoked his immediate death," the autopsy report, carried out at Chile's Institute of Medical Law, said.

Chile's National Corporation for Reconciliation and Reconstruction, formed in 1996 to investigate more than 1,000 suspected cases of human rights abuses that year, deemed that Señor Valdebenito's death was "a direct result of the torture to which he was submitted by agents of the

Judge Garzón's evidence

'Police abused their authority'

GENERAL Pinochet's supporters point to the cases of two Chilean workshop employees as clear examples of how the Spanish investigating judge. Baltasar Garzón, has failed to check his facts. They say they are simple cases of police abuse, of the type that still occurs in Chile and in many other countries. Victor Manuel Labra

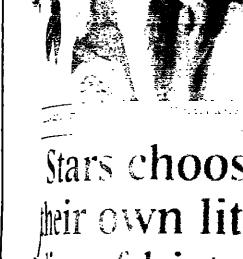
and Guillermo Salvador Calderón were employed by a mechanical workshop in the town of Talagante. Señor Calderón had been in trouble with the police previously. Neither man is known to have been politically active. The workshop owner reported them to the local police because he believed they had tried to steal a engine. the police in July 1989, and initially confessed to the

alleged crime. A trial was held, the confessions of both men were produced and they were sent to prison. An appeal court later cleared them and the two men alleged that the confessions had been

were beaten on their hands, feet and testicles. Señor Labra was thrown to the ground, causing his nose to bleed," Judge Garzón alleges in a writ sent to London on March 26, just two days after the Lords decision, in which he added 33 new cases to the extradition warrant. Fernando Barros, the

Chilean law professor who is belping to guide General Pinochet's defence in London, said the fact that the local police used violence in their attempt to send the two men to jail did not prove that General Pinochet was systematically using torture for political ends.

Prosecuting lawyers in Madrid agreed it was had come from the Corporation of People's Rights (Codepu), a group that Senor Barros claims is associated with Chile's far Left. They said the Torture Convention did not differentiate between political and other motivations for committing torture.



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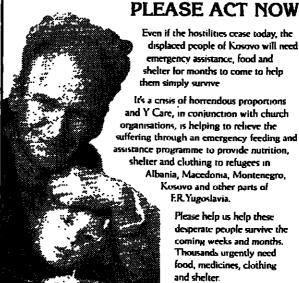
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David Bailey bemoans the dearth of cool

DAVID BAILEY, the photographer and epitome of 1960s cool, yesterday poured a bucket of icy water on the modern idea of "Cool Britannia". Mocking the Prime Minister's idea of the British image, he said: "If Tony Blair thinks something is cool, then you know that it isn't."

Bailey was launching a ret-rospective exhibition on the day that he was also receiving an award from the Royal Photographic Society for his out-standing contribution to photography and imaging. The man who made his name by photographing the rock stars and models of the Swinging Sixties has called his exhibition Birth of the Cool.

Lamenting the uniformity of 1990s society. Bailey, 61, said: "Everything has been dumbed down now. The avant-garde has gone to Tesco's, as it were. Everyone is 'cool' and nothing is old-fashioned. Things were

different in my day."

He denied that he was nostalgic for the 1960s: "Sixties London was a great place to be birth, but now

master of image says it's just too

ordinary, reports Elizabeth Judge

in my twenties, but I am happy to be where I am now. Every morning I wake up and feel delighted I do what I do." Tracing the career of Britain's foremost photographer from 1957 to 1969, the London exhibition at the Barbican Centre features more than 200 black-and-white prints. The portraits of people who have come to characterise the era include Jean Shrimpton, the Kray brothers and John Lennon. Contemporary icons are also featured, including the Gallagher brothers from Oa-

sis and the model Naomi

He was in at the tographer's third wife, Catherine, and his three children. Paloma, Fenton and Sascha. Bailey said that his pictures

transcend generations: 'These pictures will never date. Hairstyles and shoes change, but faces don't. I focus on the face and avoid the rest." John Hoole, the director of

the Barbican Art Gallery,

said: "It is great to be showing

David Bailey's exhibition. It is

a long time since he has had a big exhibition like this in London. I am sure we will get a big response." The exhibition coincides with publication of book, Archive One 1957-1969. Bailey, who has just finished directing his first film, Intruder, had a simple response to being told that he was to receive an honorary fellowship from the Royal Photo-

graphic Society later in the

day. He said: "About time."



David Bailey presents the Birth of the Cool: "Everything has been dumbed down now. The avant-garde has gone to Tesco's, as it were"



Bailey and Penelope Tree in 1970: "Things were different"

Stars choose their own little slice of history

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

ran nominated a Vespa scooter and for John Humphrys the choice was a horse-drawn plough. They are among celebrities who have been asked what exhibit, old or new, deserves a place in a

Dame Judi told the survey by the Museums and Galleries Commission her reason for choosing the safety pin as "an object of special significance": "This has been a lifesaver to те оп тапу оссаsions and, if it is not already in a museum, then I think it

Sir Terence, the entrepreneur, admires the Vespa scooter for its classic, practical design — "the epitome of chic mobility in the 1950s and ear-

should be," the ac- 🛂

"chic mobility" ly 1960s". He said: "As a young designer, I used to zip around London on one. often delivering a piece of fur-niture, which I strapped to

John Humphrys, the broadcaster and organic farmer, went back farther in time to answer the challenge set by the commission. The plough, he explained, "is a reminder of the days before factory

DAME Judi Dench picked a farming turned much of safety pin, Sir Terence Con- Britain into an ecological wasteland".

Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, selected a silver swan automaton from the Bowes Museum in Co Durham, as "a superb work of craftsmanship, beautifully made and detailed". He added: "It is also fun. It moves, swallows fish, and bows its

neck." Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leaders chose Botticelli's Primavera, which has 'always been one of my favourites".

The writer and his torian Sir Roy Strong selected The National Gallery Complete Illustrated Catalogue: 'This will surely become an inplethora of artefacts connected with our

own history."The radio and television presenter Zoe Ball picked a Roberts radio: "I can remember my dad doing DIY while listening to Radio 2," she said.

The commission, which is a government advisory body. conducted the survey to publi-cise its new website, which will feature a different celebrity each week:

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Bees 'spread genes from GM crops'

THE Government is to review guidelines on the isolation of genetically modified crops after a study found that bees could carry pollen four kilometres from test sites.

Farm scale trials to assess the environmental impacts of the crops have just begun with "buffer" zones between them and the countryside of just 50 metres. Government rules on commercial plantings of gene altered crops suggest buffers of 200 metres.

But the new findings, pub-lished yesterday, indicate that a revised strategy may be needed to allay public concern. The 4km distance is much further than previously supposed and indicates that any attempts to confine genes from such crops to the fields in which they are grown will prove futile. The researchers claim that

the spread of so-called "transgenes" from farm to farm will be widespread should commercial plantings go ahead. The findings have come from a team at the government-funded Scottish Crop Research Institute in Dundee who unveiled the results yesterday.

Michael Meacher, Minister for the Environment, admitted that bees in particular could take pollen large distances from test sites. In a House of Commons written reply yesterday, he said that despite precautions "it has to be recognised that bee activity may in

Ministers to review guidelines as

new study suggests buffer zones may be futile, writes Nick Nuttall

meant that seeds produced by

the plants were as a result of cross-pollination from the

field rather than self-pollina-

The scientists found that pol-

lination occurred at all the test

sites. Nearly 90 per cent of

flower buds were pollinated

one metre from the field. But

even at 4,000 metres away, 5

per cent of flower buds on the

test plants had been pollinated.

a conference at Keele Universi-

the farm-to-farm spread of

oilseed rape transgenes will be

Dr Crawford said bees

could be the key to pollination at huge distances. "Bees carry

a lot of pollen concentrated on

their bodies. So the amount of

pollen getting to a plant could be quite significant," he said.

seize on the findings to claim

that superweeds, immune to

They will also alarm organ

Green groups are likely to

The team says in its paper to

"The results suggest that

some cases involve the dissemi- Using male-sterile plants nation of GM pollen beyond the isolation distances traditionally used".

A spokesman for the Department of the Environment said that studies were under way into the consequences of bees transporting pollen over large distances. He said the existing isolation guidelines would be reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment in the wake of these

John Crawford, one of the research team, admitted that it had been surprised by the find-ings. He said that the distance over which oilseed rape pollen travelled had been unknown and of little consequence.

But concern over the impact of gene altered crops was concentrating scientific minds. We were getting cross-pollination over large distances. There is no doubt that pollen from genetically modified crops will get out." Dr Crawford said.

herbicides, will develop in the countryside if gene altered The scientists planted malesterile oilseed rape plants at 52 crops are approved. sites. They were positioned between zero and 4,000 metres ic farmers who are concerned from a 70sq km field in which that gene modified crops will oilseed rape was being grown. cross-pollinate with plants

such as sweetcorn, nullifying their organic status. Last July a West Country organic farm-er lost a case in the High Court to have trials of gene altered crops near his farm scrapped.

A judge supported the Government's position that the risks of cross-pollination was "likely to be zero".

Adrian Beeb of Friends of

the Earth said yesterday: This research throws current thinking out of the window. It confirms that pollen from these mutant crops will be a problem for most farmers and will spread into the countryside quicker than previously

He urged the Government to back calls by bodies including English Nature who have demanded a three to five-year moratorium on commercial plantings of gene modified or-

The findings come as Clare Short, the International Development Secretary, gave warning that multinational companies could "misuse their powto foist genetically modified food on to Third World countries. She said that companies could "force this technology on to countries unknowing-- either in importing food that is the product of such tech-

nology, or seed." Ms Short said an agreement on a biosafety protocol, cover-ing rules on international shipments, was urgently needed.



Nicola Sturgeon of the Scottish National Party at the Rooftops Nursery, Edinburgh, yesterday. She said that the SNP would consult widely on education reforms

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SNP in disarray as Labour seizes on budget gaffe

parliament was in disarray last night after it back-tracked on the true cost of independence. The party tree dependence. The party tree fused to confirm whether an independent. Stotland would be saddled with a 22 billion budget deficit, prompting Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, to chal-

enge the nationalists to "come clean over the cost of divorcing Scotland from Britain".

The Times disclosed yesterday that senior SNP strategists have concluded that an independent Scotland would have a budget shortfall of around £2 billion in 2000-01 be-

fore moving into surplus.

Mr. Dewar yesterday wrote to Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, demanding that he say how an SNP government of an independent Scotland would plug the hole in the country's finances. Labour said the deficit could result in an in-

come tax rise of 35 per cent. The nationalists argue that the Scottish deficit is smaller m relative terms than the overall deficit for the United Kingdom. They point out that the latest official spending liguies put the UK deficit at £32 billion for 1996-97. Labour, which says that independence would be an eco-

domic disaster, described the disclosure as "a very significant development" in the parliament election campaign. Douglas Alexander, the MP who is co-ordinating the Scottish Labour campaign, challenged the SNP to publish its economic stralegy for independence without delay. Mr Alexander added: "They appear to be conceding a £2 billion black hole in their independence plans - the equivalent of more than 8p on the basic rate of income tax."

Scots facing recession

Scotland is on the verge of a full-scale recession with unemployment set to rise at its lastest rate since the early 1980s, a leading economic think-tank claimed. Business Strategies said that while the UK as a whole will suffer an economic slowdown this year, Scotland will post the worst performance with an outright decline in growth for a second consecutive year. However, a separate survey showed faint signs. of recovery. The Scottish Chambers of Commerce said optimism was improving in all areas of the economy, except. the manufacturing sector, although growth remains weak.

Graham pulls out

Tommy Graham, the expelled Labour M.P. has abandoned plans to stand against his former party in the parliament election. The MP for Renfrewshire West had intended to stand in Paisley North against Wendy Alexander on May 6 but has pulled out, citing ill health. Mr Graham said he recently spent tendays in hospital for treatment after a contracting a virus. He was expelled last year after an investigation into factionalism and Labour membership irregularities in Renfrewshire. Investigators concluded that Mr Graham had brought the party into disrepute.

Stand and deliver...

Bemused delegates at a conference in the Balmoral Hotel. Edinburgh, were asked to "hand over their jewels" by four members of the Scottish Socialist Party, including the former Leith MP Ron Brown. The group, brandishing water pistols and dressed as characters from the Quentin Tarantino film Reservoir Dogs, were protesting against the Private Finance Initiative, which delegates were discussional forms of the control ing. Colin Fox, SSP spokesman; said they chose the film theme to "bite back at the fat cats taking part in daylight robbery of Britain's public purse".

QUOTE of the day

Henry McLeish: on Labour plans to seize assets of suspected drug dealers without a conviction:

These are dramatic and draconian measures but we

make no apologies for what we want to do?

today's AGENDA The campaign moves to the

north of Scotland, William Hague makes a whistlestop tour of the north east, talking to forry drivers about road tax and diesel costs. Alex Salmond will be in Inverness and Eign. Donald Dewar will launch Labour's vision for the Highlands and Islands in Dingwall. Jim the health service and waiting lists in Edinburgh.





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Tony Marchington with the locomotive for which he paid £1.5 million in 1996. He has since spent a further £1 million having it restored

Flying Scotsman on track for comeback

TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE Flying Scotsman, the first train to travel at more than 100mph, will return to the railways this summer after a El million restoration. Even today, few trains can beat the speed record that the locomotive set in 1934.

The 160-tonne engine painstakingly restored, is to be used for charter journeys on part of its old London to Edinburgh route. It will travel between King's Cross and

The restoration was masterminded by Tony Marching-ton, a 43-year-old pharmaceutical entrepreneur, who bought the locomotive in

poor working order for £1.5 million in 1996. Its rebuild was carried out at a former Great Western Railway shed at Southall, West London. Bringing in help from rail enthusiasts and companies that specialise in renovating locomotives. Dr Marchington supervised the repair or replacement of every part of

Flying Scotsman will run



out of King's Cross on July 4 Although inter-city trains on a £350-per-head return trip on the London-Edinburgh to York including drinks and route can travel at up to meals — the start of regular 125mph, most trains and mainline charter services. It track in Britain are incapawill take four hours for the

ble of being used at speeds of more than 100mph. Built in 1923, the Flying Scotsman ran about two mil-

lion miles in service before being withdrawn in 1963. It was taken over by a succession of private charter service es. It set its 100mph record

DNA tests convict rapist, dget gat 8 years on

A RAPIST who brought fear to women in the Midlands and the South was jailed for life yesterday after being apprehend-ed eight years after his last attack, thanks to a DNA test.

OUT Seize

struck at night while his vicried out the attacks between 1984 and 1990. The women awoke to find him crouching in their bedrooms and were raped at knifepoint, Nottingham Crown Court was told.

Sam Mainds, for the prosecution, said the attacks had stopped when Samuels was jailed for an unrelated armed robbery. Eight years later he was arrested on a minor charge and was linked to the

Mr Justice Tucker told Samuels: "You were for six years and, in my opinion, remain at risk of being — a menace to women." Five of Samuels' seven victims were in court to see him sentenced.

The father of two began his reign of terror in Northampton near his bedsit. Police believe he chose women in Victorian terrace houses as his victims because he was familiar with the layout of the buildings. He struck four times in Northampton between 1984



Samuels: caught eight

and 1987, and also carried out attacks in Milton Keynes, Reading and Learnington Spa. He admitted seven rapes, an

attempted robbery and pos-He asked for 87 other offences, including burglaries, passing stolen cheques and robberies, to be taken into consideration

He had begun to use escort agencies after being released from jail. When the jobless former factory worker could not afford the escorts, he started to use stolen cheques. He gave false names and took care never to go back to the same place. But he was caught out last year when he met a woman in Rugby whom he had cheated

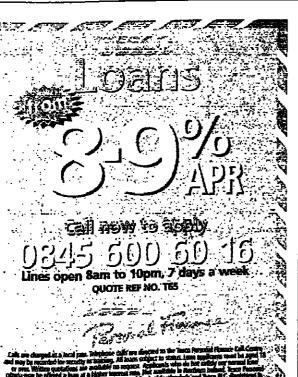
Chris Cross, who led the police hunt, said: "She recognised his voice and had the presence of mind to arrange a meeting. She then contacted the police.

Two constables were lying in wait for Samuels. The officers became suspicious at his violent reaction to being arrested for a relatively minor offence. Progress in forensic science had by that time enabled DNA profiles to be developed. which showed that all seven rapes had been committed by the same offender.

Realising that he fitted the description of the rapist and was on a list of suspects, police carried out a DNA test. Mr Cross said: "Samuels' name was eighth on the list of people from whom DNA samples should be obtained, so we would have eventually arrested him. The process was shortcircuited by two alert officers who went out of their way to

follow up their suspicions." After the hearing one of his rictims said the rape had shattered her life. The 38-year-old said: "For the first 18 months I was frightened to go into my own house at night.





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BALKANS WAR: BELGRADE FUNERAL

Milosevic's opponents mourn shot editor



11 APRIL 15 1996 P

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Tom Walker watches as moderate Serbs see their hopes for democracy buried with an outspoken journalist who condemned Nato's bombing

ON OTHER PAGES

SHORTLY before Slavko Curuvija's funeral procession in Belgrade's new cemetery yesterday, the air raid all-clear siren sounded. On a spring day of whispers and hidden thoughts, this was perhaps the most powerful metaphor; not only had the all-clear sounded on Nato's bombs, but also on the Serbian opposition that they have so successfully desiroyed.

It was a time for those opposed to President Milosevic's regime to be seen and not be seen. Being beneath the gently swaying limes and horse chestnuts was a matter of

pride but also of courage, for all knew that among the 2,000 mourners were elements of a state security monolith keeping tabs on potential fires of rebellion. Mr Curuvija, who

was 50 when he was killed outside his flat last Sunday — the Orthodox Easter Day - was a curious, unpredictable figure during life. In death, the flainboyant newspaper ownereditor has become a martyr for thousands in Belgrade who dream of a new dawn for Serbia.

His paper, Dnevni Telegraf, was a constant thorn in the side of the regime, and his magazine, the European, even more outspoken. Amid the censorship of war, their editorials were buried with him yesterday. No one from the Government attended, but the funeral procession was a who's who of actors, musicians, artists and writers - all of whose lives have been made immeasurably worse by airstrikes.

Those politicians expected to at-tend did so — such as Zoran Djindjic. the Democratic Party leader, and his new colleagues from the fledgeling "Alliance for Change". Vuk Draskovic, once the figure-head of the battle to unseat Mr Mi-losevic, but now his partner in government, did not, but his wife Dana was there, as was the Mayor of Belgrade, an office held by Mr Draskovic's party. Before the stretch-Lada hearse moved off and

the band struck up its lament, Lilja Smajlovic, an editor of the European, told the mourners about Mr Curuvija's last meeting with staff, on the day

he died. "He told us two things," she said. "He would not put out a paper to suit the censors, and that the Nato aggression was immoral and illegal.

"He was a great journalist, and it was an honour to work for him. He was a courageous man, unlike those cowards who slew him in the back, and those cowards who bomb from the skies." The slow walk then began through the cemetery, one of Belgrade's most beautiful spaces, where city noise is lost among trees and graves often overgrown by wild roses and brambles. As the earth fell on Mr Curuvija's coffin, a family member read a



Mourners lead the procession in Belgrade during the funeral yesterday of Slavko Curuvija, a Serbian journalist and newspaper owner who was murdered on Sunday

simple eulogy: "It shall be written that on the Easter of 1999, between the sounding of two air raid sirens, Slavko Curuvija was killed. For everything he thought of, for all he meant to us, may he rest in eternal

glory."
Mr Curuvija's companion, Branka Prpa, was led away, sobbing. She was supported by her son Ivan, 18, who hid his tears behind dark glasses. Mr Curuvija's 20-year-old daughter, Jelena, stood impassive above the graveside, as the mourners drifted away down the avenue.

Not even a madman, stumbling across the freshly dug earth shouting "It was a hit job, a Serb hit a Serb," could divert her steady gaze. Others turned and wept, but Jelena remained, staring at the wooden

"Slavko knew Nato would put de-mocracy in Serbia back by 50 years," said another woman, an old family friend, walking towards the gates. "We stand no chance for as long as the West feels that Serbs deserve to be destroyed."

Mr Curuvija's mother, Cuka, almost incoherent with grief, moaned: "The oppressors killed him, but I can see that he had many friends, thank you, thank you."

Rugova 'forced to sign Serb deal'

FROM TONY PATERSON IN BERLIN

FIRST-HAND evidence that Ibrahim Rugova, the moderate leader of Kosovo Albanians, was used by Serbia as a propaganda tool, was disclosed yesterday in *Der Spiegel*. Renate Flottau, the German magazine's Yugoslavia correspond-

ent who was imprisoned for six days with Mr Rugova and his family at their home in Pristina, reported that he was forced to appear on

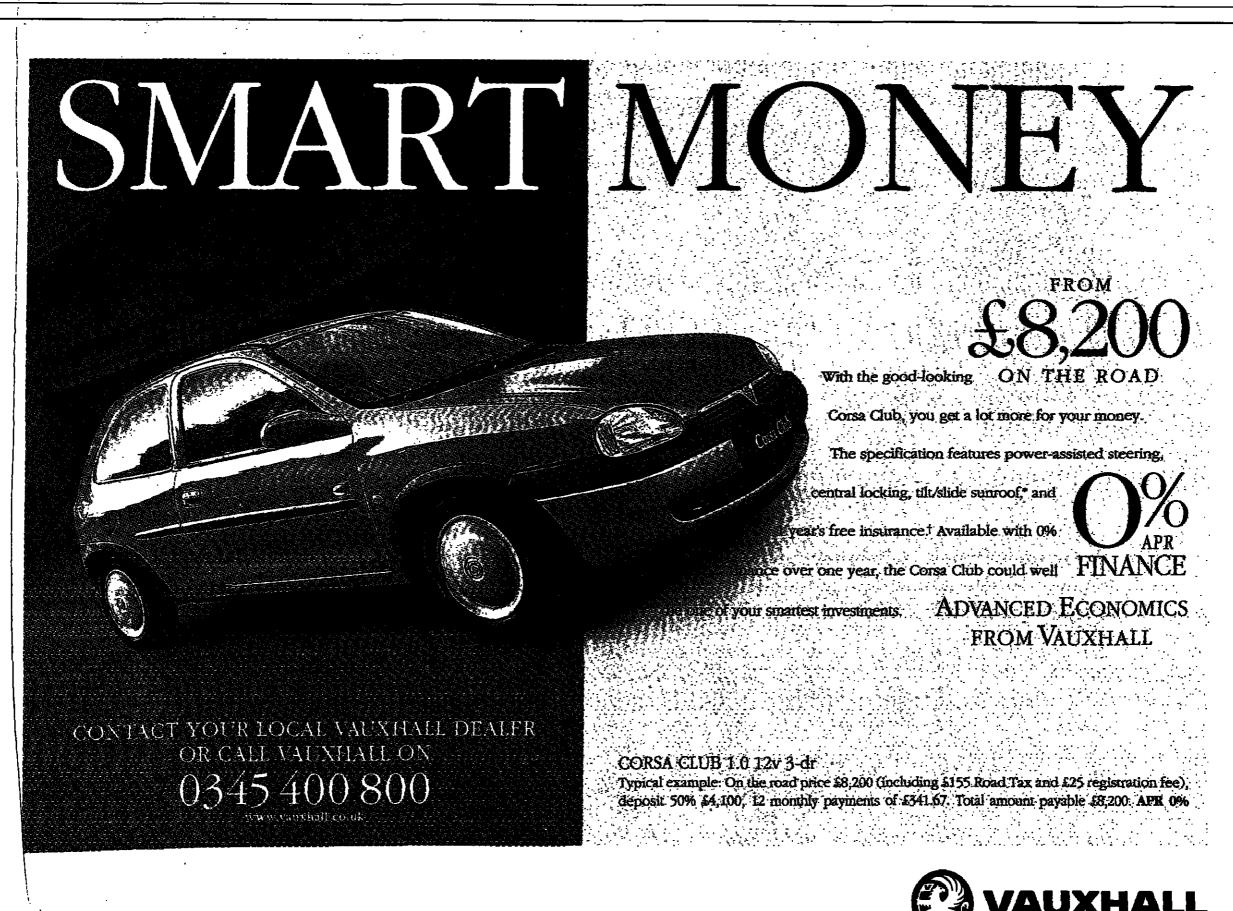
Serb television with President Miosevic and coerced into signing a communique that his people wanted a peaceful "political solution". Fran Flottan said police sur-

rounded Mr Rugova's house on March 31, and he was held with his wife, three children and 11 family members. Frau Flottau posed as a relative. Telephone lines and aerials were ripped out of the three-storey house and they lived on toast and watery soup. On April 1 he

was driven to Belgrade to meet Mr Milosevic to "discuss a solution" Mr Rugova said the Serb leader "swore like a trooper" about Western leaders. He was then put in front of cameras with Mr Milose-

vic and told to sign the statement. Frau Flottau managed to get out when the Russian Ambassador to Belgrade called at Mr Rugova's house on April 5. She said the Kosovo leader was still being held against his will.

Raising the Standard



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Bereft couple take in Blace's lost child

JEHONA ALIU, the five-yearold Kosovan refugee who lost her family when she went to the toilet near the infamous border camp at Blace in Macedonia, has been moved in with a refugee couple separated from their own children.

After days being cared for by the British Army in their Lost Children tent at the huge Brazde refugee camp on the Kosovan border, Captain Bill Soper, the officer looking after her, decided she would be better off placed with people of

her own nationality.

She is now living in tent D285 at Brazde, near where she became separated from her father Sherif and mother Sadije two weeks ago as they fled the town of Ferizaj at gun-point. Aid agencies are trying to trace her parents through the International Committee of the Red Cross registration scheme, and believe they may have gone to Albania.

Stephen Farrell reports on the kindness shown to a child cut adrift

in the chaos on Kosovo's border

The cheerful young girl is now to be found playing with others her own age outside the temporary home she shares with Fatmire Cecelija, 27, her husband Xhavit. 34, and two others. She is reluctant to talk about her mother, who was travelling with her on the train to the border, and her father. whom she left behind in Ferizaj, but shyly says she is happy with her new guardians.

It is certainly better than the aid agency tent she was first moved to, where a mentally disturbed teenager ripped off the head of her doll.

The Complision in turn admit

The Cecelijas, in turn, admit they feel a pang watching the new arrival play with other children when their own sons

Agon, six, and Ardin, three, are missing, but they are glad to be caring for someone.

They told how they were forced out of their town, Vugiteren, on April 2 by soldiers who told them they wanted to clear the whole area. They climbed aboard a tractor and headed for the border.
"It got cold at night so we

put the children with one of

our neighbours in the car behind. The tractor broke down, the car went on and we became separated," said Mr Cecelija. "We arrived at a crossroads and were sent to the Blace border crossing, and we think they must have gone the other way to Jezince.

from them. We are afraid they may have been turned back at the border and not allowed to cross into Macedonia. We just do not know."

Captain Soper, of the Royal Engineers, visits Jehona daily and his men ensure her US-AID tent is supplied with food. milk, soft toys and bedding. "It is not ideal because they

are very distraught about their own children, but it is the best we can do in the circumstances until her own family turn up." he said.
"It is better that Jehona is

with people like us. I will wor-

ry about her like my own chil-

dren." Mrs Ceceliia said. "I

will do the best I can for her." No one knows how many families have been separated during the mass evacuation from Kosovo, but the UNHCR and other aid agencies are now starting to think about their longer term care and have set up a school at Brazde.



Fatmire Cecelija, who lost her children in the exodus, hugs Jehona Aliu, a five-year-old separated from her family

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EU backs away from German ceasefire plan

FROM CHARLES BREMNER AND PHILIP WEBSTER IN BRUSSELS

NATO raised doubts yesterday about a German-inspired plan for a Kosovo settlement involving a 24-hour halt to bombing as the leaders of the European Union searched for ways to include Russia and the United Nations in efforts to broker peace with the Bei-

Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, was trying to garner support from Tony Blair and other leaders for the scheme, which aims to nudge President Milosevic into reversing course in Kosovo through the involvement of Russia and a possible UN mandate for a military peace-

keeping force.
The EU leaders played down the German plan in an effort to demonstrate unity on the Nato offensive. President Chirac of France said that the top priority remained the military one of forcing Mr Miloseian officials said, however, that Massimo d'Alema, the Prime Minister, "was in complete agreement with the Ger-

M Chirac, in a French initiative, proposed a UN resolution that would put Kosovo under the administration of

15 EU leaders on his own plan aimed at restoring peace to Kosovo. He also proposed putting Kosovo under international administration, which would require a Security Council resolution and thus China, with that of the Western powers. He underlined the importance of putting any international force under the

ultimate authority of the UN. The EU leaders were due to issue a joint statement proclaiming their backing for the Western military offensive.

Bonn's scheme, drawn up by Joschka Fischer, the Foreign Minister, is for Nato to suspend the bombing once Belgrade begins withdrawing a peace plan to be negotiated with Russia, the United States and the other members of the G8 group of leading industri-

"permanently once the Serb troop pullout was completed, the Germans

A heavily armed UN military force would then nove in as Serbian forces withdrew. Kosovo refugees would be accompanied home and the



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BALKANS WAR: THE REFUGEES

New human **Wave crosses** to Macedonia

NATO forces and aid agencies in Macedonia were gearing up for a fresh influx of refugees from Kosovo yesterday after more than 3,000 people ar-rived on trains and buses at

DAY APRIL 15 1999

cks away

German

fire plan

the Blace border crossing. The new arrivals may delay the handover of the camps by Nato to civilian relief agencies; the transfer began earlier this week and was expected to be all but complete by tomorrow.

Even as hundreds of refugee children staged a "Thank You Nato" march through Brazde, the largest of the transit camps where refugees are nervous about Macedonian policing once lewer Western troops are around to curb abuses, the arrival of two trainloads and three buses of exiles threw the proposed timetable into question. Brigadier Tim Cross, commander of the UK National Support Element, said the refugees claimed there were more behind them.

This may be the beginning of a second wave of refugees.
We cannot see beyond those hills. We should not assume anything but we are planning

to absorb as many as we can." The mood at Brazde and the other camps was positive yesterday, now that Royal Engineers and troops from other Stephen Farrell and Joanna

Bale see Brazde

camp start to fill up again

huge initial influx, have brought them to the stage where United Nations agencies and international charities can take over the running of medical facilities, food distri-

bution and sanitation. Brazde, which now holds 25,000 to 30,000 refugees. has spare capacity after 7,000 were relocated to other camps last week. Brigadier Cross said yes-terday Nato would provide more logistical help if needed, and confirmed that he and the Macedonian Government were examining plans for expanding Brazde, which lies

on an ideal site with ready ac-

cess to water supplies. The sudden influx of the more than 3,000 refugees at Blace, and 1,000 at the smaller Lojane border post, comes after the arrival of more than 1,500 people in the three previous days. Prior to that no-one among aid agencies that Presi-dent Milosevic is expelling refugees again to destabilise a Macedonia which is reluctant to take more ethnic Albanian

Most of yesterday's arrivals came from Urosevac, with some cars being allowed through from Pristina and Prizren. A UN refugee spokeswoman said none complained of ill-treatment, saying they had simply been told to leave immediately and were allowed to keep their jewellery and travel documents. "It is a good indication that there is at least a little more freedom of movement," she said.

After arriving at the Blace border, where until recently 65,000 were housed in squalid conditions, they were put on 20 buses and taken to Brazde. Food and water were rushed to the crossing where the 3,000 were kept waiting in the heat for hours by delays on the Macedonian side.

lgbola Zumberi, 34, her husband and four children were forced out of their homes yesterday. "The whole town is in ruins, it has been completely destroyed," she said.Adem Hasani, 38, and wife Ajete, 28, and their three-year-old daughter Anita, were given ten min-Nato countries, who set the had been permitted to leave. utes to leave Ferizaj. "We ar tents up within 48 hours of the The surge has prompted fears just glad to be safe," he said. utes to leave Ferizaj. "We are



A group of ethnic Albanian refugees take the place of earlier arrivals who have now left the Brazde

WORLD **SUMMARY**

OLEG POPOV / RELITERS

Yeltsin appoints envoy

Moscow: President Yeltsin has appointed Viktor Chernomyrdin, the former Prime Minister, as his special representative for deal-ing with Yugoslavia (Anna Blundy writes).

Mr Chernomyrdin is one of Russia's most Westleaning politicians.

The appointment, which came after Mr Yeltsin survived an impeachment vote in the Duma, is viewed as a sign that Russia is keen to soften its anti-Nato stance. Mr Chernomyrdin said that he may soon visit the United States "for meetings at the

Mafia on a war footing

Gioia del Colle: Business is booming for organised crime bosses making handsome profits on supplies to the Nato bases in southern

ltaly (John Phillips writes). Police say local hoodhums are also involved in smuggling illegal immi-grants from Kosovo and gun running across the Adriatic Sea to Albania. Montenegro and Albania are favoured hideouts for mafia bosses on the run.

Fleet shows its teeth

Moscow: Russia's Black Sea Fleet is set to carry out exercises there, and its warships are ready to sail to the Mediterranean (Anna Blundy writes). Passage for nine Russian warships to pass through the Bosphorus has been approved by Turkey. The exercises are being seen as part of a Russian attempt to scare Nato into ceasing its military action against the Serbs.

366MHz Processor

Shell hits Albanian school

IN VLAHEM, NORTHERN ALBANIA

SERB forces yesterday continued their attacks on Albanian border villages, shelling Vlahem to force Kosovo refugees sheltering with local families to flee as Kosovo Liberation

According to both those who live here and KLA commanders in the village, which is surrounded on three sides by

Army troops prepared a coun-

Serb artillery positions and a battalion of troops occupying the valley head. Serb infantry infiltrated several hundred yards into Albania — the second such move in as many days - clearly intent on killing Kosovo civilians - and hitting rebel bases.

Five mortar rounds were fired into the grounds of Vlahem's primary school. No one was hurt in the dawn attack, but the effect on people's lives was devastating. Shkilgim Abmoti, 28, a farmer who remained in the village after the attack, said all the women and children, as well as 800 Kosovan refugees, had fled down the valley to the nearby town of Krume. "There are just a few guys here now. We have stayed behind to fight the Serbs if they try to come into our country," he said.

Thousands of new recruits, many Kosovans from America and Europe, have hurried to join the KLA, but they face a shortage of heavy weapons, and lack the skills to use them.

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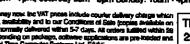
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BALKANS WAR: THE BURDEN

Reservists await US call to arms

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON

THOUSANDS of army reservists - from Midwestern farmhands to members of Congress - are waiting to hear whether they will be called up for active service in Kosovo as America boosts its military muscle in the Balkans.

The Pentagon expects to ask President Clinton to authorise the mobilistion of military reserves, most importantly to provide flight crews for the 382 additional aircraft requested by General Wesley Clark, the Supreme Allied Commander, but also as army liaison personnel on the ground and back-up troops for the Apache helicopter attack force.

The US Army Reserve, with 1.4 million people potentially available for duty, is principally composed of former armed forces mem-bers who spend at least one weekend a month training and are liable to call-up in times of conflict.

Nine members of Congress could be summoned for immediate service, but many others appear on the lists, of whom the most distinguished — and least likely to see action in Kosovo - is Strom Thurmond, the 96-year-old Republican senator who is a retired general in the Army Reserve.

He took part in the D-Day landings as part of the Glider Infantry Regiment of the fabled 82nd Airborne Division, but had to obtain

special dispensation to fight because he was already 41. Mr Thurmond is not on the active list, but Ben Gilman, 76, Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, is among those who could technically get the call to arms. Most reservists, of course, are in their twenties or thirties.

More than doubling the air armada in the Balkans has placed fresh strain on the US Air Force and many of the extra planes, such as aerial refuelling tankers, cannot be flown without the addition of a force of reservists.

The Pentagon has also indicated that it is likely to mobilise more of the National Guard, the state military forces that the Government can call on during conflict and disasters. Several hundred Air National Guard volunteers are among the 22.000 US soldiers on duty in the Nato operation.

"If we increase the tankers sent over, the National Guard and the Reserve will have to make up the crew. We can squeeze a few more from active duty, but the majority will have to be the Guard and the Reserve," said Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Wynne, of Scott Air Base, Illinois, from which most refuelling

During the Gulf War in 1991, the largest recent mobilisation of Re-

serves, about 230,000 from the army, navy, air force and marine corps were returned to active duty. Reservists are also likely to be called up as part of Task Force Hawk, the 24 Apache helicopter gunships, back-up helicopters and missile batteries now heading to Albania, supported by about 2,600 troops. "Civilian soldiers" will probably make up a significant propor-tion of the Civil Affairs Units, noncombat troops who liaise with local people and civilian authorities. Reservists fall into two catego-

ries. About 900,000 "Drill Reserves" are men and women who have served in the armed forces or. more rarely, civilians who have undergone an intensive 180-day basic training course. These continue to train for two days every month, and 15 consecutive days a year. Behind them are the 500,000 "Individual Ready Reserves", former servicemen and women who do not train but remain on standby.

The Pentagon has estimated that the Yugoslavia operation will cost between \$3 billion (El.85 billion) and \$4 billion, although congressional estimates reach \$5 billion.

Even before Operation Allied Force, the US Air Force was complaining of a lack of pilots and low recruitment. Air patrols over northern irag have had to be suspended.



American airmen at Italy's Aviano Air Base yesterday assemble a 500lb GBU-12 laser-guided bomb

Apache force may double

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FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE Pentagon was considering plans yesterday to double the number of Apache attack helicopters to be used against Serb troops and tanks deep inside Kosovo.

The expansion would put a task force of 48 Apaches on the Albanian border, as well as a huge array of armour and ground troops. Talk of increasing the force, a classic example of "mission creep", came as the US Army was still scrambling to make the first batch of 24 Apaches operational, which is now expected early next week, two weeks after the decision to send them.

The Pentagon said that it had not yet been finally decided to double the number of Apaches, after a report that General Wesley Clark. Nato's Supreme Allied Command-er, had asked for reinforcements.

But the idea clearly was looked on favourably. Kenneth Bacon, chief Pentagon spokesman, said: "It think it's entirely possible there will be additional helicopters over time, but I would not think that would come immediately."

The army was concentrating on getting the first Apaches into place. "but there could well be more later." Mr Bacon said.

An increase in Apaches would be viewed in the context of the growing Nato build-up in the border countries of Albania and Macedonia from which a ground assault



Nato will need UN help to keep regional peace

THE campaign against Yugo-slavia could commit 80,000 to 100,000 Nato troops to peacekeeping and defensive operations in the Balkans for years unless the United Nations takes over.

The expanding conflict and use of Albania and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as launchpads for Nato action in the region have effectively made the alliance morally responsible for their security in the future.

The Yugoslav republic of Montenegro will also need some reassurance that it will not be abandoned to an avenging Belgrade regime once the present war is over. Michael Evans, Defence Editor,

sees allies being over-extended

Alliance governments are talking of the need to develop a Balkans-wide strategy. But the key element of any such policy will unavoidably mean maintaining an almost per-manent military presence in

Bosnia-Herzegovina is al-ready a huge drain on resources. Last year Nato planners proposed that the 30.000-man Nato-led Stabilisation Force (Sfor) in Bosnia could be reduced by about 10,000 because of the relatively peaceful environment and increasing focus on civilian reconstruction. However, the war between Yugoslavia and Nato will have changed such calculations. The continuing stability of Bosnia has to be one of the key elements of any Balkans strategy, which means that the 30,000 troops — of which 5,000 are British look set to be a permanent

The commitment to Kosovo is also written in stone. Nato has estimated that it

implement a peace settlement if Belgrade signs an accord. A similar — or larger — force would be needed to protect refugees returning to their homes, without Belgrade's

No one doubts that this military commitment would be required for more than three or four years. Once Nato troops are in Kosovo, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to extract them, unless the political regime in Belgrade changes beyond recognition.

Military planners always include an "exit strategy" in their operations. But in Bosnia there was never going to

needs about 28,000 troops to be an easy exit. Troops are still there after seven years. Kosovo will be the same.

When UN peacekeepers were first sent to Bosnia, the British Government offered troops for an initial six months. There were even suggestions that the Nato elements of the UN Protection Force could be rotated with troops from other nations after six months to a year.

But no non-Nato country had the professionalism and expertise to take over the Bosnia responsibility. In due course, the UN left and Nato took charge. Along with the 30,000 in Bosnia (though not all are Nato) and the proposed 28,000 in Kosovo, it can easily be imagined that Albania and Macedonia will require at least 10,000 troops

Montenegro, which has had the courage to speak out against President Milosevic. would also have every reason to expect Nato to guarantee military assistance or support with up to 5.000 troops.

However, such a huge military commitment for the Bal-kans is clearly beyond Nato. The problem will have to be resolved politically, not militarily, and only one world organisation has the ability to

meet such a challenge the

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Erotica leaves Frenchmen cold as women take dominant role



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Siffredi: fresh approach after 1,000 porn films

FRENCH males were quivering like frightened rabbits yesterday with the release of what is already becoming a cult film about crude and unashamed female sexuality. Romance, which blurs the distinction between hard-core pornography and art, is likely to mark contemporary France in the same way as Emmanuelle set its stamp on the

Its release yesterday is the most dramatic sign yet of radical changes in a society where sex has always been male, and love female.

Directed by a woman. Catherine Breillat, and featuring a male porn star. Rocco Siffredi, an Italian, the film explores a female eroticism that was supposed to exist in France

A film marking a new sexual revolution has divided society, writes Adam Sage in Paris

only inside traditional loving rela-

Roselyne Bachelot, one of a handful of women MPs, said: "Men were allowed to have brute sex for its own sake, but we were only allowed sex as a reflection of feelings." Until now, that is.

Mme Breillat's work features adventurous sex orchestrated by the star, Caroline Ducey, from a female perspective that is increasingly dom-inant in French culture.

Whereas Sylvia Kristel was the object of male desire in Em-

manuelle. Signor Siffredi is thrust into the opposite role. Even before the film's release, intense publicity meant that almost all French women were aware of his dimensions and performances.

They have also discovered that while he has risen to every challenge in his 1,000-film pornographic career, the demands of Mme Breillat and Mlle Ducey were so great that he suffered the indignity of momentary deflation on the set

Reaction to the film among ex-

perts was divided. Most women critics admired the film, described by Isabelle Potel of *Libération* as a "successful adventure into the female body". Their male counterparts were reduced to bewilder-

Brothers, we have to admit that Mum's a whore," wrote André Bercoff, of France-Soir. His response was indicative of the state of mind of the average Gallic male.

Having lapped up the sexual revolution of the 1960s, which multiplied the number of partners but did little to alter the balance of power. French men are now petrified by the cruder female version that is

fashionable Yesterday there was clear evi-

WOLFGANG KUMM / EPA PHOTO

Paris. The department store Galeries Lafayette placed three female models in its windows to promote a new collection of lingerie.

A decade ago, the sight of largely undressed young women would have drawn hordes of leering and boastful men. But those who passed yesterday appeared embarrassed and unsure of themselves.

Sebastien Sissa, 22, went puce and shuffled from foot to foot when asked what he thought of the models. His father, Alain, 48, said: "For me, they are not an object of desire at all."

They were, of course, but few Gallic males are now prepared to admit to a desire that has been out-

dence of this shift on the streets of stripped by the modern female fantasies promoted by French culture. Romance is the most obvious example. But there are others. Last year, the film L'Ennui, by the director Cedric Kahn, featured a young woman, played by the actress Sophie Guillemin, who enjoys sex but has no feelings for the multiple partners who fall desperately and suicid-

ally in love with her. The most popular novel of the past 12 months. Les Particules Elémentaires, by Michel Houellebecq. is in the same vein.

Its central characters are a middle-aged man who is obsessed with a catastrophic sex life and his brother, a scientist, who abandons sexual activity altogether.

Starr calls for end to role of prosecutor

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

KENNETH STARR said yesterday that America should never see his like again. In a move that invited com-

parison with a turkey voting for Thanksgiving for the others in the farmyard while he lives out his old age, President Clinton's tormentor said that there should be no more

independent prosecutors. Mr Starr, giving evidence to the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, said that the Watergate-era law that created the office of independent prosecutor should be allowed to lapse when it comes up for renewal in June. He argued that the post does not work and the nation would be better off scrapping it.

The man who has come to personify the role of independent prosecutor and has been fiercely criticised by supporters of the Clintons as an overmighty witchfinder-general zealously probing into the darkest corners of private lives, said that the public had not been left with a feeling that investigations of political figures were free of partisanship.

"I recommend that the statute not be re-enacted," he told the committee; investigations should be conducted by the Attorney-General and the Justice Department.

He was not, however, calling for his own destruction for. whatever the committee decides, those independent prosecutors like himself, who are already active, will be able to wrap up their business.

Mr Starr said that the attacks on him had been damag-

ing. "The assaults took their toll. A duly authorised federal law-enforcement investigation came to be characterised as yet another political game.

"Law became politics by other means. The impact on public attitudes was unmistakable. The mechanism intended to enhance confidence in law enforcement thus had the effect of weakening it."

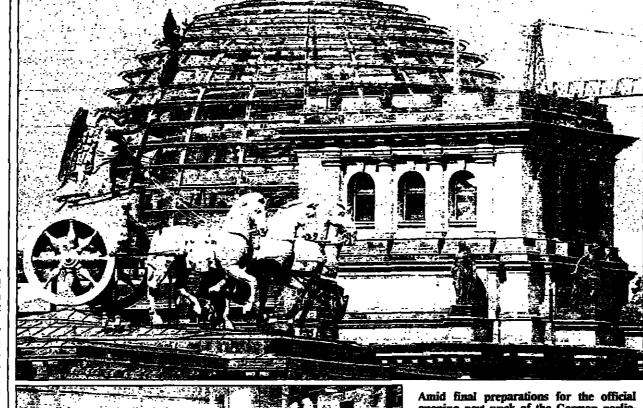
He defended his own investigation and the way that it had been expanded from the original Whitewater land deal, in which Mr Clinton was involved back in Arkansas, to the dismissal of White House travel office staff, the collection of confidential FBI files on Republicans and, ultimately, the Monica Lewinksy scandal.

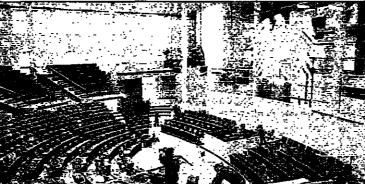
"The number of expansions is unique, and it may have fed the misconception that we were investigating individuals rather than outcomes," he said. "Let me make clear: that was not the case." He added: "Independence can be misrep resented as antagonism."

The law providing for the ap-

pointment by the Attorney-General of independent prosecutors was passed in the wake of the scandal that brought down President Nixon. ☐ Ruling accepted: President Clinton does not plan to challenge a ruling on Monday by Susan Wright, a federal judge who held him in contempt of court - the first time a President had been so held - for giving misleading statements on his affair with Ms Lewin-

sky, The Washington Post said yesterday. (AFP)





opening next week of the German parliament at the new-look Reichstag building, above and left, Bonn's ministries began their 348-mile migration to Berlin yesterday.

A 24-mile stack of files and 120,000 pieces of office furniture from 81 different buildings will be moved from the Bundestag to the rebuilt Reichstag, which is to hold its inaugural session on Monday.

Berliners will get a glimpse of the new Reichstag when the futuristic glass dome. created for the neo-Renaissance structure by Sir Norman Foster, the British architect. is opened to the public on Wednesday. (AFP)

Mutiny among New York's finest

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK'S Police Commissioner, who has overseen a sharp drop in crime with a much-vaunted zero-tolerance policy, faces a mutiny in the ranks for turning the city into a "police state" where people despise men and women in uniform.

The Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA), representing police officers, has cast a unanimous vote of no confidence in Police Commissioner Howard Safir amid rising concern about police misconduct. The union accused him of destroying public trust by pressing officers to pursue aggressive tactics even though crime has fallen to the level of 30 years ago. Its leaders called for a "go-slow" in issuing summonses for trivial offences such as riding bicycles without bells.

When zero-tolerance tactics were introduced, crime was at an all-time high." James Savage, the union president, told a meeting of 400 delegates on Tuesday. Now that crime is way down, an adjustment is required. If we don't strike a balance between aggressive enforcement and common sense, it becomes a blueprint for

a police state and tyranny." Public confidence has plunged after two widely publicised cases of brutality. A Haitian immigrant was sodomised by officers with a lavatory plunger while in custody in Brooklyn. Then, in the Bronx, an unarmed West African street seller was killed in a fusillade of 41 bullets from four members of the Street Crime Unit.

Mr Safir's conduct has also been called into question since he accepted a free plane trip to last month's Oscars ceremony. He has been criticised for using police officers for as security at his daughter's wedding and for getting detectives to inter-rogate a driver who crashed into his wife's car. Mr Safir blamed the association vote

on politicking for an internal election. Rudolph Giuliani, New York's Mayor, said: "I appoint the Police Commissioner not the PBA. My vote of confidence expresses very, very much the sentiment of the people of New York."

WORLD IN BRIEF

Berezovsky arrest warrant dropped

Moscow: Russia withdrew an arrest warrant for Boris Berezovsky, the country's most influential billionaire, who promised to return to Moscow to face the charges against him (Anna Blundy writes).

Mr Berezovsky, a close friend of the Yeltsin family though he is loathed by the public, is accused of transferring £155 million from Aeroflot, Russia's largest airline, to a spurious Swiss company. "I confirm that I will come back to Moscow this week," he told Interfax yesterday from his Paris hotel. Mr Berezovsky says that the charges are part of a vendetta against him on the part of Yevgeni Primakov, the

Election hit by boycott

Algiers: A day before a planned presidential vote in Algeria, six out of seven candidates announced their withdrawal in protest against fraud in early voting, throwing the crucial election into question. The move would leave only the mili-tary-backed Abdelaziz Bouteflika in the running. It was not immediately clear whether voting would go on as planned. The election was intended to give Algeria a civilian president and reconcile a nation reeling from an Islamic insurgency that has killed 75,000 people in seven years. (AP)

Ten face crucifixion

Khartoum: A Sudanese tribunal has sentenced ten people to death by crucifixion after tribal clashes left 131 people dead, a daily newspaper said. Judge el-Amin el-Tayeb found the defendants guilty of initiating the conflict in West Darfur, which is still under a state of emergency, Akhbar Al-Youm reported. The sentences have yet to be approved by the Supreme Court. The February killing of three Arab nomad chiefs sparked the disturbances in and around Geneina, the state capital, which left another 85 people injured. (Reuters)

Goodbye to 'Allo'

Paris: A French gossip magazine has been ordered by a court here to give up its name because it cashes in on the reputation of the British title Hello! and its Spanish sister publication Hola! Prisma-Presse, the owner of Allo, as the sevenmonth-old French magazine is called. was ordered to pay £153,000 for breach of copyright and given four months to find a new name. *Holal*, which had tried to start up a French franchise, had been forced to settle for Oh La. (AFP)

Winning hands down

New York: Mark Kenny, 34, a salesman, won hands-down in his attempt to set a Guinness world record. He walked on his hands down 1.200 steps of the Citicorp building, beating the previous time for the same distance in *The Guinness Book of Records* by more than four minutes. The challenge took him 51 minutes and 22 seconds. Mr Kenny set his first Guinness world record in 1994 by completing a 50-metre dash on his hands in 16.9 seconds. (Reuters)

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- Pakistani test raises stakes in arms race

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BELIING

PAKISTAN'S successful testfiring of its Ghauri-II missile yesterday, in response to a similar test by India last Sunday. has raised fears in China and elsewhere around the Pacific Rim of a deterioration of security in South Asia.

Beijing, a longtime ally of Pakistan, said after India test-fired its nuclear capable medium-range Agni-II ballistic missile last Sunday that the test could trigger a new round of the regional arms race.

The Chinese side expresses regret and concern," the Foreign Ministry said.

Speaking at Gwadur, a coastal town close to where the Ghauri-II landed after its 12-minute flight. Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani Prime Minister, said that the missile's range could be extended to 1.440 miles by reducing its payload from the tested 2.200 lb.

Mr Sharif said that the Ghauri-II was fired from near Jhelum, in Punjab province. and hit a target 715 miles away near Jiwani, in Baluchistan province. The weapon's maximum range puts all of India's main cities within the reach of

Pakistan's military. India and Pakistan have fought three wars in the past half century, and have been conducting tit-for-tat nuclear testing. Last May the two nations carried out matching nuclear underground trials that led to punitive economic

India ended a five-year peri-

Tehran: Iran said it had suc-

cessfully test-fired an ad-

vanced anti-aircraft missile

yesterday that would signifi-

cantly strengthen its arsenal.

the missile was locally built,

but did not give its range.

Footage was broadcast of the

surface-to-air weapon test, ap-

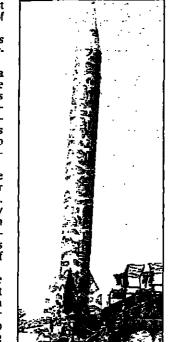
parently carried out in a re-

The Defence Ministry said

Iran launches missile

with the testing of its controversial Agni-II ballistic missile. The upgraded version of the

clear capable China.



The Ghauri-II at Jhelum

The missile has been named Sayyad-I after Lieu-

tenant-General Ali Sayyad

Shirazi, Iran's Deputy Chief

of Staff of the Armed Forces,

who was assassinated on Sat-

urday in an attack claimed by

an opposition group. In July Iran test-fired its Shehab-III

missile, which has a range of

800 miles, putting Israel with-

in reach. (Reuters)

od of restraint last weekend

Agni has a range of about 1,375 miles, enabling it to reach any part of Pakistan and well into China. Delhi regards its missile as a deterrent to nu-

In an apparent conciliatory

effort, a deeply-worried Beijing said after the Indian test that there had been a good trend of dialogue and an improvement of mutual understanding emerging between India and Pakistan. "China hopes the two sides

can settle the problems through patient, frank and meaningful dialogue," Sun Yuxi, the foreign ministry spokesman, said.

Russia expressed concern at Pakistan's actions. A foreign ministry spokesman said that the test "could lead to the further escalation of a nuclear missile arms race in Asia".

A government announce-ment in Islamabad said yesterday that the test-firing showed Pakistan's "determination to defend itself, strengthen national security and to consolidate the strategic balance reached when Pakistan matched Indian nuclear tests last May.
The two nations informed

each other in advance of their tests, in keeping with an agree-ment reached in Lahore in Feb-ruary when Atal Bihari Vaj-payee, India's Prime Minister, and Mr Sharif held border talks to ease tension.

Both sides signed a declaration promising to take steps to prevent a nuclear clash as well as intensifying efforts to settle disputes over Kashmir and

Islamabad strongly denies reports that the Ghauri-II has links to the missile technology of North Korea or China, and said that the successful flight was the result of Pakistan's technical prowess in the field of missile development.

☐ Canberra: Australia announced that it deeply regretted Pakistan's decision to test the Ghauri-II. Alexander Downer, the Foreign Minister, said that the testing would raise tensions in an already unstable region. "A cycle of ac-tion and reaction will not help resolve the tense security situation in South Asia," he said. (Reuters)



Clem Coetsee's team manoeuvre one of the sedated elephants into position before it is loaded for transportation

Elephant man of Zimbabwe refuses to follow the herd

A LOT of heave-ho, shouting and doses of morphine and tranquillisers are the answer to the debate over what to do with too many elephants, ac-cording to Clem Coetsee, a Zimbabwean game expert. Instead of mowing them down in bloody culls when

overpopulation threatens to destroy their environment, Mr Coetsee knocks them out, loads them on to a pantechnicon and takes them wherever they are wanted. Before he pioneered the technique, no one had tried to move anything

bigger than a baby elephant.
Mr Coetsee is a veteran of more than 1,000 captures and can have a bull elephant chewing hay in the back of a pantochesion 20 minutes after methods. technicon 20 minutes after receiving a dart in its backside.

Jan Raath in Bindura watches one man's alternative to the bloody

culling of the African behemoth

He has moved elephants all over Zimbabwe, South Africa. Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. He has transported them by lorry over three days for 750 miles and is confident he can shift them in an aircraft.

But not just anyone can fire dart next to an elephant's tail from a vibrating helicopter with pinpoint accuracy. then lug around the equiva-lent of a five-ton sack of meat and bones - and not only

keep it alive, but also pacified. Mr Coetsee recently moved two 25-year-old bulls that had wandered 100 miles from the in northern Zimbabwe to the maize fields of the Bindura valley 50 miles north of Harare. When he found them he leaned out of a helicopter with his dart gun and hit each beast with 8mg of etorphine. an opiate 100 times as strong as morphine (a drop in your veins would kill you in 45 seconds) mixed with azaperone, a quick-acting tranquilliser to keep them placed when the an-

Mr Coetsee appears to be the first person to have discovered that elephants cannot breathe through their mouths. When he first knocked them out, several died until he realised that they were falling on

their trunks and suffocating.
"We didn't know, the boffins didn't know," he said. "It took us a little while to click on." They die in five minutes. So Mr Coetsee's team now dash to the fallen beast in case they have to drag the trunk from underneath its body.

One of his team makes sure there are no kinks in the propedes its soft pointy prehen-sile tips where it sucks in air with a great echoing rumble. The team also ensures that

LINKS

 Care For The Wild websits http://www.borsfree.org.uk/ the elephant does not become too bot. The inside of the animal's ears are a latticework of large veins and arteries. It flaps its ears constantly to cool the blood. Left lying still in the blazing sun, the animal would die. A man with a backpack spray douses it with a fine mist of water.

One of the elephants slid back on to its bottom so that it came to rest sitting up. Mr Coetsee's team threw themselves at it until it toppled over on its

"There's all that weight on its lungs when it's sitting like that and the drugs have al-ready suppressed its respira-tion," said Mr Coetsee. "You have got to get it out of that po-

They folded its ear forward over its open eye to prevent

By this time it had also been given a large shot of haloperidol, used to treat psychosis in humans, but which will keep elephants calm for up to three days. Then it was rolled on to a rubber mat and winched to the pantechnicon.

After couple of hours the elephants were back in Mavuradonha. One jabbed a hole in a tyre with its tusk and stormed off into the bush, trumpeting majestic indignation.

Hello petal, this is your carer

By Robert Whymant IN TOKYO

HAVE you ever wondered if your yucca enjoys you talking to it? Or how a potted hyacinth feels about being stroked?

If you yearn to find out, a Japanese manufacturer has devised "a unique communication tool between plants and human beings". The Plantone resembles an oversized boiled egg in an egg-cup and emits beeping sounds and flashing lights

when it picks up a plant's electrical impulses.

To check the emotional state of an aspidistra, place the battery-powered gadg-et by the pot, clip two electric leads to a leaf and the stem and earth the third wire in the soil. The Plantone is now ready to read subtle changes in the plant's electric mood and to change them into sound through an electric circuit wired to a small amplifier inside the device.

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The stronger the aspidistra's electrical impulses. the louder the beeps. The device flashes a green, yellow or red light, according

to the current's strength.
The feedback from a plant reflects the behaviour of the owner, or "carer". Kazuto Mochizuki. of the Tokyo toy firm, Epoch. says. "A plant reacts most cheerfully when a carer strokes its leaves. Rather than just talk, get up close so that it feels your body temperature and breathing. The plant will sense what is going on and respond within ten seconds." Mr Mochizuki adds that "flowering plants show the

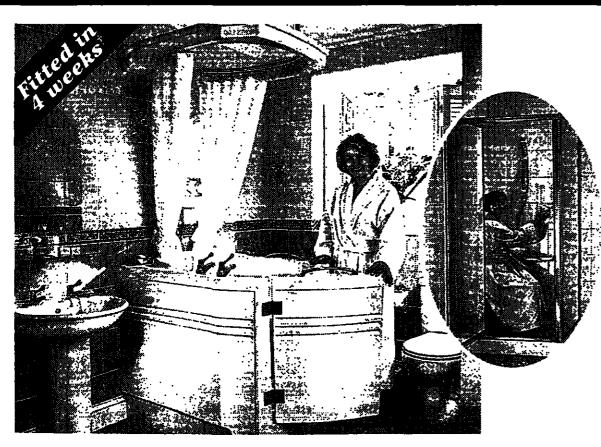
strongest emotions".

The company devised the Plantone to profit from the country's present craze for gardening. Amid a prolonged recession, many Japanese are taking up trowels and shears as an alternative to more expensive leisure activities. The Plantone goes on sale in June for 6.890 yen (£35).

Jim McDonald, senior cturer in plant physiolo gy at the University of Aber deen, said: "It is quite in order that electrical activity in a plant can be picked up by the Plantone. Potentially any external stimulus to the plant is likely to affect the electrical signal.

"However, exactly what stimulus would result in a large or small output is quite another and, indeed, intriguing matter."

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Migrant nanny scoops £122m

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

EVEN Mary Poppins would have retired. A Chilean immierant who works as a nanny for a Boston millionaire is in a position to buy her employer's home and business from under him and still have change for some silver spoonfuls of sugar after winning the biggest individual lottery prize in American history.

Maria Grasso, 54, is to give up the Pampers for a little light pampering, but was not sure exactly what to do yester day after scooping the \$197 million (£122 million) jackpot in the Massachusetts state Big Game lottery.

She knew she had won after the draw but had chosen to lie low while it sank in. At a press conference yester-

day, still flabbergasted, she said: "I have a large family in Chile. This is a big one. I took a chance and here I am." Ms Grasso, a mother of two,

watched the draw and checked the numbers she had chosen at random and had a restless night alone with her secret. " couldn't believe it. I couldn't sleep." she said.

The next day she told the wife of her employer, Chris Gabrieli, a self-made millionaire and former Democratic candidate for Congress.

Ms Grasso said she would take the money in one lump sum, rather than in payments extended over 20 years. That reduces the actual jackpot to \$104 million. After taxes Ms Grasso expects to net about \$70 million, her lawyer said.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY APRIL 15 1999

Riot police use a water cannon to disperse supporters of Anwar Ibrahim protesting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday

Riot police quell Anwar protests

BY DAVID WATTS ASIA EDITOR

ANWAR IBRAHIM started a six-year jail term yesterday as Malaysia's political drama reached a climax cementing the power of his arch-enemy. Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister.

The sentence was more severe than expected and removes Anwar from the political scene for the forseeable future in spite of his lawyers' determination to appeal. The judge imposed a jail term of six years on each of four counts of corruption to run concurrently. The time already served in detention will not be taken into account.

Even in the unlikely event of a successful appeal, other charges of sexual misconduct and one of corruption are outstanding against the former Deputy Prime Minister, who was once anointed by Dr Mahathir as his successor.

Speaking from the dock, Anwar described the judgment as an absolute disgrace", accusing his former mentor of plotdealt a judgment that stinks to high heaven," he told Judge Augustine Paul. It involved "an interpretation of corruption which is ridiculous, nauseating, in fact, when one considers how in Malaysia billions of ringgit of the people's money are being squandered by its leaders to save their children and cronies," he said.

Anwar said: "The charges are part of a political conspiracy to destroy me and ensure Dr Mahathir Mohamad continues to hold on to power at whatever cost, even if it means



Anwar waves on arriving to hear judgment vesterday

sacrificing whatever is left of the judiciary's integrity." The ruling had members of

Anwar's family in tears. Outside the court protests erupted and police used water cannon and teargas to drive his supporters from Independence

International condemnation of the verdict was swift. Amnesty International said An-

would study the case with its European Union partners.

The vicious rivalry between Anwar and Dr Mahathir came to a head over their different prescriptions for managing the country's affairs after the Asian economic meltdown in 1997. Anwar, the darling of the West and the acceptable face of Islam, was pitted against Dr Mahathir, the patriotic defender of developingcountry values. The Prime Minister has strong ties with Japan, which would have been unhappy with any increased American influence in its backyard, seen as a likely consequence should the Anwar eco-

nomic view have triumphed. Dr Mahathir, 73, Asia's longest ruling leader, is offi-cially suffering from a chest infection, but in a TV appearance last week he seemed to be suffering something more seri-ous. He had a multiple-bypass operation ten years ago.

There is scepticism about the political potential of Wan Azizah, Anwar's wife, who has launched a political party to campaign for justice. 'Today starts off on her own," said one political observer. "If Mahathir keeps him there long enough he will be neutralised In eight years [Anwar will not be allowed to run for public office for two years after completion of his sentence], who will remember him?"

☐ Trial proposed: A Royal Commission has recommended that Abdul Rahim Noor, Malaysia's former police chief, be charged with beating Anwar while in custody. (AFP)

Leading article, page 23

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French boss lands in court for hard work

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

THE trial of a senior executive of a leading French company on 6,000 counts of allowing executives to work overtime, has opened in Versailles. The test case, the first of its kind in France, will force a decision on how the country's complex and sometimes Kafkaesque labour laws are to be applied when executives voluntarily work long hours

war's imprisonment was politi-

cally motivated and called for

Britain said it would be stud-

ring the judge's verdict. Robin

Cook, the Foreign Secretary,

said: "We have concluded that

aspects of the case give real

cause for concern, in particu-lar the relationship between

the executive and the judiciary

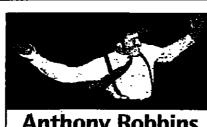
in Malaysia." He said Britain

his unconditional release.

to do their jobs properly. The case is also seen as an indication of the Government's determination to make companies comply with its sweeping plans to create jobs by forcing companies to implement a 35-hour working week. thereby obliging them to hire more employees to compen-sate for diminished produc-

Bernard Rocquemont, who was chief executive of the radar subsidiary of Thomson CSF — the defence electronics group — at the time of the alleged offences, is accused of allowing 6,000 infractions of the maximum working day in 1996 and 1997 at Thomson's Elancourt plant, near Paris.

Trade union leaders say that is 60,000 hours worked illegally. M Rocquemont could face up to a year in prison and a Fri00,000 (£10,000) fine if convicted.



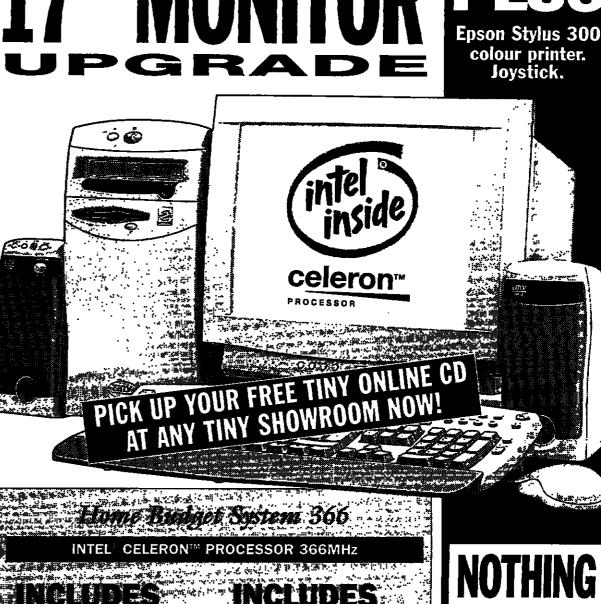
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"Custo samply, the man is brillant." - Boardroom Magazwa: 10".	sententes - including parliament, sports stars and leading businessmen - and thousands of books and tapes and chared an	Tony Robbins astarbhing credibility. I in next seen a m
Robbios is a great public spraker like best I law over heard." - The Integraph, (IR.	estimated \$1 million for award's more." - Business Age jiffitian's # 1 business maggring!	technology or more power! contributestor walks his talk - Scott Degan Editor-in-Che Success Magaz

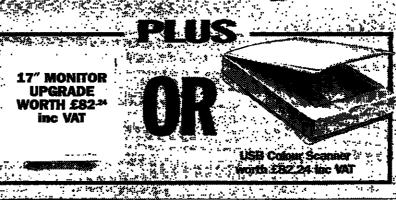
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Pocket-size secret

of a triumph

at 17,000ft

LAST Monday 74 runners, thousands of miles from this weekend's London

Marathon, ran the same distance, starting

at more than 17,000ft in the Himalayas. A new course record was established this

year of 3 hours 56 minutes by a Nepalese man. Instead of running on London streets.

they had to traverse steep hills, rugged trails and rickety suspension bridges. Strict

instructions were issued on the etiquette of

passing yaks that were carrying wide loads. The knowledgeable marathon runner passes on the inside — if not, a yak may elbow them down a precipice.

One Briton, Dawn Kenwright, who was

sickness and chest troubles, she also had to keep an eye on her diabetic control. Diabetic control, maintaining the correct blood glucose level, is difficult for athletes because insulin requirements decrease as exercise increases. But Kenwright was helped by a new blood-sugar estimator so small that it would fit into a waistcoat pocket. The Esprit glucometer has the advantage of being twice as quick as similar devices and convenient to use in a

After a pinprick, a preloaded test strip is extruded from the glucometer, to which it remains attached. The strip is held against

the drop of blood and in the all-in-one system the blood-sugar level magically appears on the display panel. So easy and rapid is the procedure that Kenwright

continued running as she estimated her blood sugar at predetermined intervals. With the help of the Esprit, she was able to keep her glucose levels at optimum levels.

revolutionary advance for mobile, sighted diabetics. However, there is also demand for a "talking" glucometer to help the many diabetic patients who have problems with

their eyesight. The only British talking

monitor for the million diabetics with

visual impairment has, on commercial

● Glucometer Esprit: Bayer, 01635 563000

grounds, recently been withdrawn.

The Esprit is claimed to be a

the first woman home, not only had to triumph over the terrain and the common local problems of diarrhoea, altitude



Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on Binswanger's disease and the 'Mardi Gra' bomber; how a marathon runner controls

diabetes; multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease; the fashion for power-napping

Crazy for a drink

notes to Barclays and Sains-bury's "Mardi Gra" instead of the correct Mardi Gras be an indication of his developing de-

Lawyers acting for Pearce. sentenced to 21 years in jail, claimed that he was suffering from Binswanger's disease, a claim dismissed by Judge Michael Hyams, the Recorder of London, who suggested that his mental condition was no different from that of anyone else of Pearce's age (he is 67) who has a history of excessive alcohol consumption.

Mention of Binswanger's disease must have disconcerted the prosecution's medical advisers. They needn't have worried: medical opinion is not convinced that Binswanger's disease is a separate

entity.

Elderly patients with diseased cerebral blood vessels may suffer dementia, usually as a result of many small strokes, either because of a bleed, or because a small cerebral artery has been blocked by a clot. After the vascular dis-

ould the fact that blackmailing bomb-er Edgar Pearce signed his extortion aster, the surrounding brain tissue becomes infarcted. An infarct is a piece of tissue des-troyed as a result of deprivation of blood.

Multi-infarct dementia accounts for 15 per cent of cases of dementia. Whereas in Alzheimer's, or Lewy Body de-mentia, the decline in intellectual ability tends to be insidious and continuous, in vascular dementia the onset of symptoms is abrupt, and the deterioration comes stepwise. Patients maintain their status quo for some time before their mental state suddenly worsens again. Frequently the pa-tient is unaware of the small strokes, but family and friends usually notice the deterioration. When other dementias and multi-infarct dementia coexist, a patient is said to be suffering from "mixed dementia".

It is important to distinguish the various forms of dementia since, in vascular dementia, there is usually some underlying reason for the trouble, such as high blood pressure, coronary, carotid or peripheral arterial disease. Patients might also be suffering from another form of heart disease, have too much low-

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THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER -

OUT NOW IN DOUBLEDAY HARDCOVER Doubleday



density cholesterol in their blood or have diabetes. Many of these conditions should be treated, in which case the

patient's mental deterioration

may be slowed down or even

Diagnosis of multi-infarct syndrome is usually made after an assessment of a patient's symptoms. Because they have suffered small strokes, there are often changes that can be demonstrated on clinical examination and which may later be confirmed by CT and MRI scans, X-rays of the cerebral arteries or, increasingly, MRA, in which

'Delicious'

Time Out

'Sensuous'

Daily Telegraph

'Addictive'

The Times

magnetic resonance is used to scan cerebral arteries.

Those who like to distinguish Binswanger's dementia from other forms of multiinfarct syndrome use the term to describe changes from small strokes in the sub-cortical area of the brain. These multi-infarcts are also associated with a markedly raised blood pressure and evidence of disease of the peripheral arteries. The neurological evidence of the individual strokes causing Binswanger's dementia is said to be more obvious than in other multi-infarcts and the downhill course more rapid.

Some may worry about the Pearce Recorder's comments on the mental state of nearseptuagenarians who drink. Unfortunately he is right if the drinking has been excessive and, in particular, if the per-son binge-drinks. This is asso-ciated with an increased incidence of multi-infarcts and small strokes (sometimes even large strokes). Regular moderate drinking, on the other hand, is associated with a reduction of ischaemic strokes from small clots, the most common type of stroke. Surprisingly, drinking alcohol makes

Alzheimer's less likely.

It's good to have a catnap

SLEEP is for wimps, or so it is thought in the business world, politics and the Services, and competitive types can operate on five hours a night and still command their companies, regiments or, in Margaret Thatcher's case, the country.

Dr Yvonne Harrison, from the Loughborough Sleep Research Laboratory, gives warning in her book, Sleep Talking: Science, Needs & Misconceptions, that those of us who try to emulate them may suffer from accumulated sleep loss, particularly before a key event. If big decisions are taken when most of the world is asleep, or if there is accumulated sleep loss - not quite enough

each night — performance is impaired, details overlooked, com-plex situations underestimated and wrong decisions made. One solution is the Napoleonic nap. Napoleon shunned long hours in bed in favour of brief naps of between 10 and 15 minutes. Once it was thought that this was a slothful habit for those who lunched too well, but now these rests are fashionable. Sleep experts agree that naps control sleepiness and refresh those parts that are beyond the reach of caffeine. And instead of the label "forty winks", this habit is now called "power napping" and is part of the sleep patterns of the great and the good.

Whereas power naps may be permissible for the general or the chairman, there is, however, no certainty that a somnolent soldier or factory worker will qualify for a quick kip.

 Sleep Talking: Science, Needs & Misconceptions, Yvonne Harrison. Blandford, £12.99

Coping with the cruellest of diseases

now, it is hard to imagine the

difficult transient medical

problems that she has had to

overcome during the protract-

AS THE frost strips spring blossom from the trees, it is easy to see why T.S. Eliot described April as "the cruellest month". Whether or not his observation is usually correct, two of the cruellest neurological diseases have been assigned "weeks" this

The Parkinson's Disease Society, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, has designated this week as Parkinson's Awareness Week, and the Multiple Sclerosis Society has nominated next week as the MS Week for national awareness and fund-raising.

The message of the Parkinson's *disease* Society straightforward. People with Parkinson's often have a blank face, are slow to smile and to talk, and very easily fall behind in a conversation; this doesn't indicate stupidity, but merely shows that they are suffering from the disease. Many patients may live many years and enjoy a good lifestyle, provided they receive appropriate drug treatment, other necessary therapy, and have friends and relatives who understand the reason for

their demeanour. The Multiple Sclerosis Society is chaired by Sarah Phillips. the first national chairman of the society to have the disease. and the first woman to hold this contested post. Her condition was diagnosed in 1981. when she was in Washington with her husband, who was then in the World Bank. In her carly married life she was a linguist, a professional LTA tennis coach and a keen golfer. After developing MS the tennis and golf had to be abandoned. but she went back to college and trained to be a remedial

She has worked in the clothes industry and in floristry: many of the flowers were grown in her own garden. She sings in a chamber choir which performs in East Anglia and France. On meeting her

one-step operation.

ed course of her illness. People with multiple sclero-sis often receive the compliment "You look so well -- no one would ever believe you had multiple sclerosis" with mixed feelings. Even when they are on good form, patients may suffer eye or bladder symptoms and also experience a leaden tiredness which is in quite a different league from weariness following a

Carole Mackie is another person with multiple sclerosis who continues to take life at a gallop. Carole's book Me and

My Shadow is published this week. It is an encouraging, but frank, description of the signs and symptoms of the disease and the impact it has on a still full, even riotous, life. Carole is a British Airways stewardess who made what was expected to be a routine flight to Rio in 1991. The trip culminated in her being flown home in a wheelchair. Carole, now very much better, was diagnosed as having multiple sclerosis which is of the relaxing and re-

 Multiple Sclerosis Society head office: 0171-610 7171. Parkinson's Awareness Week *backs: U1/1-63U 9U22.* Me and My Shadow, Learning to Live with Multiple Sclerosis. Carole Mackie with Sue Brattle. Aurum Press, E14.99

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Carolic Committee At last, a TV canatic control. show has --- rement, derreace & treated o nati saimani a walsteal reaching 30 as - morning has the though it's not the end of life, - Freduaded less slips says Tina oracler to which i np is held again Gaudoin To the all-in-one -2-11-tel magically The Danel Micagram La Kenwigh r - timated by

o on. admit it, you

have it all, seen it all" thirtys-

omething generation, filled

with angst over life decisions,

career decisions and whether

or not to spend EI80 on those

We live in "nice houses",

drive "nice" cars and hang out

with "nice" people. The only

thing missing from our lives is

fun. Coke (of either persua-

sion) doesn't cut it, illicit af-

fairs don't work, new babies of-

::visode on Tuesday night, is

the lead as bicycle-courier

songwriter Henry) and Chris

Neil. It has had us thirtysome-

cant sector of the rest of the

All right then, I'll admit

- Greg "sex on a stick" Wise

(who'd have thought a

number 2 cut" would have af-

fected such a transformation?)

some of the attraction among

us females has been Marshall

things, not to mention a signifi-

viewing public, gripped.

... cripted by the actor-writer Ri-

new Prada trainers.

er momentary respite before depression sets in the endorphins released while workingout aren't worth the bother,

and shopping . . . well, we all know about the long-term effects of retail therapy.
Of course, none of the above has much basis in fact; but if you've ever watched Thirtysomething, Cold Feet, Ally
McBeal, Sex in the City, or read Bridget Jones's Diary, you could be forgiven for think-

Carrier Daleiter 1997

. . . . We was aller

- volument last

ering that us thirtysomethings ·· 🚈 are a deeply tragic lot. Thank god, then, for Wonderful You, the first seriously grown-up drama that made reaching thirty look like an -achievement rather than the gend of the line. Wonderful - : You. which reached its final ep-

- and the gorgeous Marco (Dorian Healy), both of whom mai loan rates

FOR A CATALOGUE PLEASE TELEPHONE: 0161 624 3977

LONGINES. L'ELEGANCE DU TEMPS DEPUIS 1832

Wonderful them



Top totty for both sexes on Wonderful You: Richard Lumsden (Henry), Lucy Akhurst (Clare) and Greg Wise (Marshall)

ends of the social spectrum coming to terms with their lives. But what kept most of us switching on our sets week after week was the fact that the characters in Wonderful You actually look as though they are having fun while dealing with some pretty messy and difficult decisions. Turning thirty, in Wonderful You's terms, doesn't automatically

mean your life is over; it also doesn't necessitate a sense of humour bypass.

The premise wasn't new - a set of friends making monumental life-choices (see The Big Chill for starters). Would Marshall marry Clare (Lucy Akhurst), or would Henry twho had a crush on Clare since college) win her heart? Would Henry's best friend Heather end up on the shelf, or does she secretly fancy Marco (the chef in the bar she runs), who is in turn breaking up with his wife Gina (Anna Wilson-Jones). And what would Henry and Gina's grandfather make of it all?

(they are brother and sister). you're thinking this all sounds incestuous, consider the reality. Richard Lumsden is married to Emma Thompson's sister Sophie: Wise, you don't need to be told, is living with "our Em"; "our Em's"

mum, the fabulous Phyllida Law, plays Clare's mum. And, of course, they all live in the same road in West Hampstead. As if that weren't enough, the female leads Miranda Pleasence, Lucy Akhurst, Anna Wilson-Jones and Rowena King all actually live within minutes of each other in West London's

Queen's Park. At first glance the venue for the drama looked a bit dodgy. Crouch End, otherwise known as "Crotch End" by us North London purists, is a higgledypiggledy mass of late-Victorian houses perched on the side of a hill overlooked by Alexandra Palace. All very new, new Labour, but somewhat unprepossessing. As the series progressed, Crouch End's chic cred increased to the extent that property prices were being discussed at dinner-parties and pilgrimages made to see what all the fuss was about.

Of course, us thirtysomethings are far too cool to imagine that the bar in which much of the action unfolds - the Blue Sky Bar — is a real place (unlike Friends fans, who apparently trawl the streets of Manhattan, looking for Central Perk), but it has to be said that, should there be a second series, more than a few males I know will be loitering at Crouch End's bus stops in the vain hope of catching a glimpse of Clare and Heather.

Aside from proffering top

totty for both sexes (there was

also a PC homosexual relation-For the benefit of those of us ship thrown in for good measwho have been having sex ure). Wonderful You offered a with the same person for more plethora of bang-on thirtythan 12 months, Marshall and something scenarios. Dastard-Clare have an early-morning post-coital conversation. Him (knotting his tie): "Better get goly, ruthless Marshall comes over all vulnerable and makes ing, then. Thanks for sex." Her (wearily): "Did the earth the cardinal mistake of admitting to Clare that he slept with someone else during their breakup (at which point the move?" Him (resignedly): "Totally." I'll bet hundreds of two men I was watching with males and females also identihid their eyes and shrieked fied with Henry and Marco playing the escalator game. "No! No! No!"); Henry starts his evening by grooving semi-naked around his flat, choos-The theory: you have to choose your partner from a down escalator filled with people. ing his perfect pair of Calvin Klein boxers in confident antic-Choose too early and you may ipation of "a pull", but ends miss out on someone better. the night in a pit of despair aftoo late and your "sure thing" ter learning that Clare is to may have passed you by. In marry someone else; Heather Henry's case the escalator was

Once you're thirty you don't necessarily stop listening to music, or having sex

> finally has sex with her "Renaissance man", who turns out to believe in ruthless, non-protected sex; and hard-hearted smooth operator Laura tearfully professes her love for Marshall the night before his wedding. Trust me. These scenarios are not a million miles from thirtysomething reality.

> The fact of the matter is that once you're thirty you don't stop listening to music, or having sex. It's just that the music you listen to is not necessarily in Tower Records' Top Ten and the sex you practise is not necessarily the stuff that would even make it onto Live! TV. Wonderful You offered lots of reassurance in both areas - much heaving of Conran duvets, well-toned shoulders and Van Morrison, JJ Cale, Paul Weller and Aretha Frank-

more complicated by careers, relationships and commitment, but they're not any less fun. But thirty is an uncomfortable benchmark. Increasingly, for those of us who postpone marriage and children for the sake of careers, it signals the end of our youth. After Clare has suffered a debauched hen night which has included smoking dope, drinking vast quantities of wine and ogling a male stripper, she takes a pregnancy test which shows positive. Heather asks her how she feels. "All grownup," she says sorrowfully. The greatest irony of Wonderful You, of course, is that it has such a huge "like-minded" fan base. If there are millions of us thirtysomethings out there living dynamic and exciting lives, just why haven't we had anything better to do on Tuesday nights at 10pm?

empty, save for one

So, at long last, life doesn't end at

thirty - at least as

far as my peers and the characters in

Wonderful You are

concerned. Sure, our lives are made

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Death of the book or a novel way to read?

The hand-held electronic book can carry ten novels in one device. But it is no threat to the real thing, says Tim Geary

century ago, George Gissing wrote: "I know any book of mine by its smell, and I have but to put my nose between the pages to be reminded of all sorts of things." What then, would he make of the Rocket eBook, one of the new electronic books now making its way onto the American market and soon to arrive in Britain?

There is no denying that the Rocket eBook feels like the future. The size of a paperback and made from a sleek, grey plastic, the electronic "book" is a portable hand-held device that allows you to read text and pictures on a screen instead of off the page. It is light (22 oz) and easy to hold — the curved spine is supposed to feel like a paperback with its pages rolled back.

It is also easy to use: on the side of the 41/2 by 3in screen there are two buttons for scrolling up and down the pages. There is also a touch-sensitive screen which can be used to call up a dictionary if needed, increase the font size, even to add notes in the margin. It can store up to 4,000 pages, rough-ly the equivalent of ten novels. And without use of its bright backlight, the battery lasts for 33 hours.

The idea of the eBook is attractive: imagine leaving for holiday without six novels, a guidebook and a dictionary weighing you down. All you have to carry is a lightweight eBook. The new technology also makes sense for anyone unable to get to a bookshop - to buy electronic books, you simply need access to the Internet. The electronic

book can be downloaded for the same price as a book in a shop, first on to the hard drive of your computer and then into the Rocket eBook for immediate reading. It all takes a couple of minutes, and there are plans to place download terminals in bookstores and airports, enabling those away from, or without, a computer to make direct purchases. Once they

have been bought, the electronic titles can be stored in personal computer 'libraries''. obstacle is

And the appeal of electronic books will grow as the technology improves. Already a company named Everybook Inc. has developed a "reader" that is based on the shape and form of a leather-bound book but with two 13-in colour screens instead of pages. But this technology does not come cheap: the "reader" costs \$1,500 (£930), and the Rocket eBook is \$499 (£311), although the price will eventually come down.

So will readers be willing to give up page for the screen? John Schlein, from the New York offices of publish-

ers Penguin-Putnam, thinks so - partly because the eBook is so compact. He enjoys the fact that he can hold the eBook with one hand and read it on the subway. He is convinced that a generation of kids accustomed to computer screens will prefer the technology to the paper books. It will also be a useful tool for keeping reference manuals updated or for reading newspapers and magazines. But there remain plenty of physical and psychological obstacles to eBook's success. For a start, few people enjoy reading from a screen: it feels too much like hard work (even though with 105 dots per inch as opposed to the 72 dots per inch on most computer screens, the eBook is easy to read). And so far there is only a limited selection of electronic

books being published.
While there are plenty of business tomes, mystery and crime novels, and classics, there is little new fiction and non-fiction to entice the buyer although NuvoMedia, Inc. recently made publishing history by providing an electronic edition of Monica's Story on the same day it came out in print). The problem is that publishers are reluctant to go down the eBook route because in will be difficult to control: for instance, it will be possible for British readers to purchase the elec-

only published in America. Consumers may not wait for the book to come to a store near them when they can download it months earlier using a telephone line. Where does that leave the British publisher who has paid for the rights to publish and sell that American book in England?

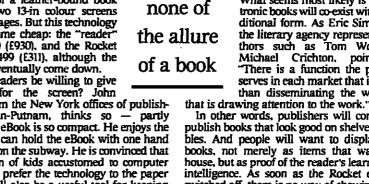
But the greatest hurdle the eBook faces is that it has neither the romance nor the allure of a traditional book. There are no sassy colours on its cover, no roughly-hewn pages, and there's certainly no hint of the earthy scent of good paper. Who would swap those pleasures for a portable screen? And who wants to lie in a hammock on the beach holding the hard plastic of the Rocket eBook? I like to drop my

book into the sand or toss it aside. Do that to the Rocket eBook and it will break. Also, the device starts feeling heavy after 20 minutes or so. Worse, I often lost my place, both actually and imaginatively, while scrolling down pages. Nor did I like having no sense of

where I was in the book. It is hard to skip ahead in an electronic book to see where the chapter ends, or to look back to remind yourself of who a character is. Perhaps such complaints will seem like nonsense in years to come, but electronic books need to feel a lot more like the real thing for that to happen. Yet lovers of the paperbound book should not despair. What seems most likely is that electronic books will co-exist with the traditional form. As Eric Simonoff, of the literary agency representing au-Michael Crichton, points out: There is a function the publisher serves in each market that is greater than disseminating the work and

In other words, publishers will continue to publish books that look good on shelves and tables. And people will want to display those books, not merely as items that warm any house, but as proof of the reader's learning and intelligence. As soon as the Rocket eBook is switched off, there is no way of showing others that you had been reading Proust.

• Shouting at the Shipmen by Tim Geary, is published by Victor Gollanz at £16.99.



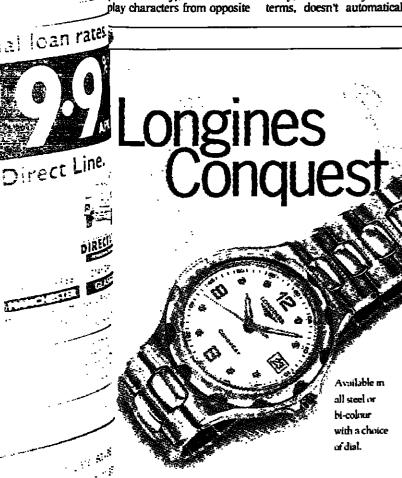
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Seconds out for chaos at the ballot box

Voters in Scotland and Wales

will need their wits about them

h God," said Lord I'm thinking of giving the Steel of Aikwood. other chap a chance with the Steel of Aikwood. Don't ask me to explain it. It's far too complicated." Thus the former leader of the Liberal Democrats on being questioned about the intricacies of proportional representation (which has been his party's flagship policy for as long as anyone can remember.)

He was joking of course. At least I think he was. But he spoke for most of the electorate in Scotland and Wales as it begins, reluctantly, to grapple with a voting system that has not yet been tried in mainland Britain. For those passionate adherents of electoral reform. who attack our first-past-thepost system as inherently unfair, history will be made next month. However, all the signs suggest that those who will use it remain baffled.

For weeks now, government advertisements have been patiently explaining how parliamentary candidates in Wales and Soutland are to be elected on May 6. There will be two ballot papers and everyone will be asked to vote twice once for a constituency MP and once for a party or independent candidate on one of the regional lists. It is this second vote which is "proportional" and is intended to secure a more balanced representation of the parties. That much is straightforward. But

you want to understand what effect your second vote will have. and how it will translate into the number of MPs your party musters, then you may have to retire to a darkened room, with a wet towel around your feverish brow. "You don't have to be a maths genius to vote, but it helps," ran a recent newspaper headline. Since readers of

The Times relish an intellectual challenge, I will simply explain that on the second, or regional, ballot, the number of votes cast for each party is divided by the number of constituency seats gained plus one. After that, the party with the highest resulting figure gains the first additional seat. In Glasgow, for example, where Labour won all ten seats in 1997, their number of votes would have to be divided by 11, whereas the other parties' votes would be divided by only one. To allocate the remaining seats, the exercise is redone, but each time an additional seat is gained it is included in the calculation until the total number of MPs

is reached. I trust that is clear. The voter, of course, has no need to work all this out. Understanding the mathematics of PR is no more important in West Lothian than it is in Wesphalia, where they have been using it for years. But it does help to know what impact the second vote will have and whether it will help to elect the people you want in power. Its intention is to achieve a fairer balance between the parties and, not surprisingly, most of those canvassed about their voting intentions say that they intend Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, finds that deeply alarming. He recounts how he keeps being told: "Aye, you've got my first vote all right, but

second." Horrified, he protests that Labour needs all the votes it can get — on the first and second ballot. If it loses support on the party list, seats could be handed to the Scottish National Party. "Don't waste that second vote." is the earnest message from Labour. The fact is, however, that in

large areas of urban Scotland. a second vote for Labour may indeed be wasted. In the big regions of Glasgow in the West, and Lothian in the East, where Labour is likely to win an almost full hand of constituency seats, a second vote will not secure a single extra Labour MP. The Additional Member System ensures that parties which have won very few or no constituencies stand a far better chance of picking up the list seats. Thus, the temptation to spread your bet on the second vote, perhaps to keep out the SNP, or to boost the chances of the Lib Dems or Tories, becomes not only irre-

sistible but even principled.

It is a real irony that the
Scottish Office adverts which have been interpreted suspiciously by some as a cover to boost the Labour vote will actually encourage the reverse: "cross-voting" could be the only way of making the second vote count. In New Zealand, where a similar system was recently introduced, 38 per cent of voters used the second ballot in

this way. The more the electorate understood the system, the more voters exploited it. In Glasgow Gov-

an last weekend I found the enterpris-ing Liberal Democrat candidate, Mohammed Aslam Khan, spending all canvassing time explaining the voting system rather than selling his

party's policies. He is focusing on the 6,000 or so Asian voters in the belief that it is their best way of ensuring an Asian in the new parliament. On the other hand his Conservative rival, Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh, a Pakistani television and film star, is angling for

much the same support.
Since neither has a chance of winning on the first vote, it all comes down to the party lists. But it took one psephologist of my acquaintance some ten minutes of detailed research to work out who stood the best chance. In the end he could only conclude that it "could go either way".

¬ he opinion polls suggest that no single party will have an overall majority in Scotland. That changes the whole climate in which the election will take place. It could mean a seat for parties like the Greens, who nationally before. It will ensure the return of the Conservatives, who were wiped out last time around. And for the tactical voter, the system will require a crash course in Higher maths.

I suggest that if the excitable Mr Peter Snow is covering the election for the BBC on polling day, the paramedics should be standing by.

comment@the-times.co.uk



Come quietly, Gerry

lster may have said no in the past, but now it's Gerry Adams who is forming his lips to pronounce that ominous syllable. It seems from developments at the resumed Northern Ireland negotiations that the republican movement has rejected the Hillsborough

Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern made their joint announcement at Hillsborough exactly two weeks ago in an attempt to educate Mr Adams in his responsibilities as gently as possible. They recognise that decom-missioning of illegal arms cannot be avoided. But by emphasising that handing over some weaponry was not "a precondition" they sought to sweeten the pill. They hoped they would help Mr Adams out of his difficulties. He appears not to want

If that is so, and one must always bear in mind the difficulty of interpreting events in the tortured and labyrinthine world of Irish republicanism, then the peace proc-ess is in peril. After all the effort invested by the British and Irish Governments — not to mention the SDLP and the Ulster Unionists progress to peace may well stall indefinitely. It may even be on the brink of failure.

The responsibility for failure lies,

bluntly, with the terrorists. Republicans and loyalists have been given a veto that allows them to block any progress towards the development of a devolved administration for Northern Ireland. Their refusal to consider any surrender of arms throws the Province's future into dangerous question. And yet the combined vote of the loyalist and republican front-groups amounts to less than 20 per cent of Northern Ireland's electorate. Nevertheless they are the groups which dictate whether progress can be made. This is, in fact, their process. Now is the time they made their peace.

I believe most British and Irish people feel that it would be no great sacrifice for the IRA to hand over or destroy a significant amount of Semtex, thus opening the door for their full participation in democratic life. Most people would see this as a logical move by republican leaders like Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, who have proved

such adept political tacticians. Republicans now need allies more than armaments. Mr Adams admitted as much at a Sinn Fein convention. He is on record as

Sean O'Callaghan tells his former comrades in the IRA that they need

friends more than firearms

must bite

the bullet

— and

hand

some of

them over

acknowledging that his party, on its own, is incapable of delivering on its aims. I believe it is now becoming increasingly obvious to Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness that the coherent, effective long-term pannationalist consensus which they want can only be built when the issue of IRA guns is dealt with. The alliance between Dublin, Washington and northern nationalists, which has done so much to advance the position of Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness, was built in the early 1990s only when the IRA delivered a ceasefire. It can be rebuilt only by

But it does not follow from this political logic that IRA disarmament will actually happen. There is an emotional logic that gov-erns republican thinking. They still say that no IRA leadership owns the weapons. They continue to argue that the guns are held in trust for the struggle and cannot be dispensed with until victory - a united Ireland

- has been achieved. So what do republicans do? They will twist and turn and seek to make mischief wherever possible. They do not want for

opportunities. The looming loyalist marching season, the aftermath of the murder of Rosemary Nelson, the nationalist lawyer, and the debate over the future of the Royal Ulster Constabulary provide ample opportunity for trouble-making.

But whatever room there is for

propaganda gains, the biggest prize within the grasp of republicans still depends on their loosening their grip on the guns. Without disarmament there will be no entry into the new executive. And without that real gain, Mr Adams's strategy will be seen by more and more grass-roots republicans to have failed.

In those circumstances, the dynamic will propel the republican movement back to "war". I am convinced, as of now, that Mr Adams believes a return to "war" would end in disaster. Any new "war" would not be seen, as it was in the past, as an assault against the sinister Conservative/Unionist axis so beloved of republican apologists. It would be seen as a war against new Labour, a war against touchyfeely, nationalist-inclined Mo Mowlam. It simply wouldn't wash. Not in the United Kingdom, and certainly not, if all the public indicators are to be believed, in the Irish Republic. So Mr Adams has a number of choices. The negotiations that led to

the Belfast Agreement are over. It is a done deal, ratified by hundreds of thousands of votes. Is Mr Adams now prepared to grasp the nettle as so many other republican leaders, from Michael Collins and Eamon de Valera, have done?

Will he face down the hardcore militarists and become a fully fledged constitutional politician? Or does the unity of his movement and the baggage of his own and his family's republican past mean that he will go along with a resumption of "war" in the short term? Will he hope that both Governments will come to decide that they made a mistake by backing David Trimble's Ul-

ster Unionist Party on the decommissioning issue? Will he believe that, once the armed struggle resumes, London and Dublin will turn the pressure on the Unionists?

It is possible that he might gamble on such hopes. But he must realise how weak his position would be. For Mr Trimble would stand vindicated. He would surely, and rightly, tell republicans, "This is a matter of trust. You refused to decommission and by going back to war have demonstrated that we were right to demand decommis-

My strongest sense is that if both Governments remain resolute, Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness will eventually, after much sabre-rat-tling, have to bite the bullet. Which means handing some over.

That will produce a split. But Mr Adams surely knows the same split will happen in any event. Those in

the republican movement most opposed to decommissioning are those who are, anyway, unhappy with the Belfast Agreement. There are those within the IRA looking for a reason to cut loose. Some republicans are never happy with compro mises. Unless the entire republican movement returns to "war", a split is inevitable at some stage. The unregenerate militarists will go back to what they know best — murdering, bombing, torture and intimidation. Fear of a split should not prevent decommissioning. A split cannot be dodged, so decom-

missioning should not be ducked. I do not believe Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness will lead any charge back to war, because they must still recognise that a pannationalist alliance has more potential to achieve their aims than another bombing campaign.

ome of the strongest nationalists in the Dublin establishment now admit privately (some even publicly) that they want the IRA to move on decommissioning. They are not stooges of Unionism. They recognise that Sinn Fein participation in a new Ulster executive allows them to go about their quiet but effective business of extending Dublin's influence over Northern Ireland. The IRA refusal to decommission has become an embarrassment. These people want to work with the republican movement to implement an agreement that they believe will eventually lead to the end of the Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the establishment by stages of a united Ireland.

They are correct in their analysis that such a strategy is much more likely to succeed under a smokescreen of co-operation, honeyed words and economic inducement, unaccompanied by the sound of bomb and bullet. The war has

delivered as much as it ever will. Gerry Adams said early in the peace process that the time for decommissioning was after, and not during, the negotiations. The negotiations are over, Gerry: the Belfast Agreement was their outcome. It is time now to deliver on your own

The writer is a former IRA com-mander. He is the author of The Informer published by Corgi at

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Clark of words

ALAN CLARK is taking steps to ensure he remains a one-off. The magnificent Conservative MP is attempting to register his name as a trademark with the European U ion. He began registering his name before he successfully took a local newspaper in London to court to prevent it from publishing the Not Alan Clark's Diary column, its spoof of his own chronicle.

But Clark will have to wait until mid-June before he finds out if the FII will prevent such imitations Until then, any other Alan Clark Saltwood Castle should not enjoy exclusive rights to the use of the name can lodge a formal appeal.

There is, of course, my old friend, the Right Rev Alan Clark, the erstwhile Bishop of East Anglia, and Alan Clark, formerly of HM Diplomatic Service. "If Mr Clark encroaches on my right to use my name. I would be very cross," the latter tells me. "It's not as if he's Elvis Presley. There are tens of thousands of Alan Clarks."

SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC has gone ex-directory. The Serbian leader's sole namesake in Britain, a resident of Ilford, Essex, has removed his name from the telephone book after wearying of



THE Cold War remains alive for Ann Widdecombe. Touring Africa with a film crew for a report on debt, to be broadcast on tonight's Channel 4 News, the Shadow Health spokeswoman (above) dropped in on a Roman Catholic mission in Zambia. In a scene that ended up on the cutting-room floor one of the crew told Widdecomb he was "off to see the rushes". "The Russians?" she yelled. "Why would you want to see Russians?"

RIVALLING Kofi Annan's peace efforts, the Natural Law Party is sending 7,000 of its yogic flyers to Dubrovnik for the weekend to send "waves of bliss" across the troubled region.

IN THEIR first test of nationhood, the Welsh are struggling to organise an international rugby competition in Cardiff. Organisers of the Rugby World Cup are so worried that the city's Millennium Stadium will still be covered in scaffolding when they host event in October that they have booked Wembley as a substitute.

DURING her visit to Morocco earlier this month, Hillary Clinton disappeared into a Beduin tent in the desert for a couple of days to reconnect with her spiritual self. I am unable to confirm reports that she was joined by Eleanor Roosevelt.



COULD the Dean of Westmin ster Abbey's decision to exclude the Bach Choir from Ted Hughes's memorial service have anything to do with the recent unpleasantness there? If you recall, the Prince of Wales had suggested to West Carr that the singers, who include the Duchess of Kent, perform al next month's ceremony after the choir's patron, Leopold de Roth

schild, offered its voices for free. Carr has declined to explain why he turned down the offer. But I suspect it might have something W do with one of the choir's second sopranos, Penny Neary. She is in wife of Martin Neary, Westminster Abbey's former organist who was sacked by the Dean for alleged

HOUSEHOLDERS in Kensington are to benefit from a new breed of night watchmen: roadsweepers. § The Royal Borough's finest are to be trained by the police to spot suspected burglars as the cleaners clear the gutters and empty bins.

financial irregularities.

'The war against the Serbs is about projecting a self-image of the ethical new Britain bestriding the world. It is a crusade'

ohn Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, can denounce "Mr Milloffosoffeffic", but he cannot pronounce him. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, seems to think that Kosovo is being ravaged by President Milosevic's "Siberian forces". Mr Cook has also assured us that he "knows" that the Serbs executed 20 Albanian teachers in front of their pupils in Goden. What he does not appear to know is that Goden is a village with just 200 inhabitants - yet. it seems, with a teacher/pupil ratio beyond even the fantasies of the NUT conference fringe.

The Balkans may no longer seem so faraway, but these are still countries of which our Government knows little and cares less. So what did Tony Blair mean when he told Parliament that the war is being fought "for a moral purpose as much as a strategic interest"? What moral purpose moved Mr Blair to become the first Labour Prime Minister to lead Britain into a major international war, involving democratic socialist airstrikes on passenger trains. TV transmitters and homes?

The war's moral purpose clearly has little to do with the welfare of the region's peoples. Kosovo's Albanians are a hapless army of televisual victims whose suffering provides a convenient pretext for war. Nato contemptuously bombed their towns and cities. Then, when the airstrikes precipitated a predictable humanitarian crisis, the "shocked" West rushed in news crews to capture the relugees' tears - "say 'rape

camp' for the cameras". The true position that the Kosovo Albanians hold in Britain's official affections is best revealed by the magical transformation these people undergo when the lucky few step off the Mick Hume

ferry at Dover. Under the terms of new Labour's asylum laws, it's goodbye refugees from hell, hello dirty scrounging gypsies.

The "moral purpose" of Mr Blair's war is not to be found in the Balkans, but at home. As ever, foreign policy is an extension of domestic politics. The war against the Serbs is primarily about giving Mr Blair's Government an aura of moral authority and a sense of mission. It is about projecting a self-image of the ethical new Britain bestriding the world. It is a crusade.

Like their medieval predecessors, new Labour's crusaders seem almost entirely ignorant of who they are off to fight and why. It is a case of "insert appropriate enemy here", be it President Saddam Hussein or Slobodan Milosevic. All that matters is to find a suitably ugly infidel against whom to prove their own righteousness. Since the Government finds it difficult to forge a moral consensus in Britain on everything from genetic engineering to roadbuilding, it eagerly seizes opportunities to lay down the law about what is Right and Wrong on the world stage.

This is what Mr Blair meant when he announced that the war against the Serbs is "no longer just a military conflict. It is a battle between Good and Evil: between civilisation and barbarity". Implicit in this statement is that, as a counterpoint to the Evil Mr Milosevic, Mr Blair is a force for Good in Britain and around the world. New Labour has appointed itself saviour of civilire-educate the barbarians. The self-image of new Britain which Mr Blair's crusade seeks

to endorse is captured by touching pictures of British Army officers bottlefeeding Albanian babies and brushing the hair of young refugee girls separated from their parents. This is a namy state with a difference. claiming the right to act in loco parentis for all those it deems deserving. Armed with a brick of moral superiority in her handbag, Clare Short, the International Development Minister, can bully Macedonian border officials about not acting like civilised Europeans. And behind her, an army of radical activists. actors, journalists and others in search of a cause with which to make themselves feel better. have signed on for new Labour's religious war.

As a new crusade, Mr Blair's

war need not be restrained by the rules of realpolitik. All that matters is that Something Must Be Done, and let's worry about the consequences later. The outof-control character of this adventure raises serious questions

about where it all might end. No doubt Mr Blair and his followers sincerely believe their war is a just moral cause. After all, the righteous (or in this case the self-righteous) can do no wrong. But those who think that anything goes so long as the Kosovo Albanians are saved might remember what happened to previous victims picked by Western liberals to justify "humanitarian" interventions. They were dropped when the moral roadshow moved on. Anybody

seen an Iraqi marsh Arab lately? The author is Editor of LM magazine. lm@informinc.co.uk



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THETTIMES

STRAW'S LIST

The Government should come clean on Pinochet

Jack Straw will imminently announce whether he will authorise the extradition of General Pinochet that has been requested by a Spanish judge. According to our report today, however, it now appears that a significant push to prosecute the former Head of State is coming from Mr Straw's own Crown Prosecution Service and not just Judge Balthasar Garzon in Spain. On the day following the House of Lords' the Lungs judgment which reduced the extraditable charges against the General from 31 to 3, the Crown Prosecution Service asked Judge Garzon to provide information to support further charges against him. This request resulted in an additional 33 charges being raised against Pinochet. The British Government is, therefore, not just acting as an agent for Spain, as it claims to be doing, but is actually pursuing the General on its own account - which it has not admitted.

The Crown Prosecution Service's letter to Judge Garzon made it quite clear that it wanted to re-build the case against General Pinochet. It states that "we urgently need precise particulars of torture cases" and "the number of people involved and the methods of torture that were used". It explains that it needs this information in order "to be able to demonstrate that these people were actually tortured", and that this material will help strengthen the case of Conspiracy to Torture and provide a basis for other charges."

This active pursuit of evidence against General Pinochet sharply conflicts with the Government's pretence to political neutrality. In order for a magistrate to grant an extradition order for General Pinochet, he needs to be certain only that the prisoner before him is the General and that the offences charged are extraditable. Those original three offences would have done the trick by themselves. The British Government did not therefore need any further evidence in order simply to comply with the extradition agreement. Nor does the Government need any further evidence if it is happy to release General Pinochet.

Even though any single act of torture, if proven, is an appalling offence, Mr Straw is not obliged to authorise the General's extradition. He could decide that General Pinochet is simply too old or ill, or that as the case has been significantly weakened by the reduction of the number of charges to just three - extradition should not proceed. The General would return to Chile, and face the charges awaiting him

There are two possible explanations for the Government's enthusiasm for further evidence against General Pinochet. The first is that Mr Straw wanted to play an active role in building up the list of charges against him. Under Article 13 of the European Convention on Extradition of 1957, unlimited further charges can be added to an outstanding extradition warrant. If, therefore, the demands of foreign policy or other forces require the Home Secretary to release his prisoner on ostensibly compassionate grounds at the last minute, then at least he will have played his part in discrediting the General.

The Home Secretary may simply be lengthening the list of charges to improve the odds of a conviction. As so few charges remained, it was possible that none would survive the rigours of cross-examination. Whether Mr Straw and his Cabinet colleagues want to see the General imprisoned or simply substantiate an expected decision to authorise extradition, a long list of charges will help.

This has already been an unnecessarily long and complex affair. Whatever the precise reason for the Crown Prosecution Service's request for more evidence against General Pinochet, surely it is time that Mr Straw laid his cards on the table and admitted that this Government would like to see him face trial.

DOWN BUT NOT OUT

Malaysians may snatch victory from the jaws of legal defeat

History teems with instances of truth and . justice put down by persecution; the modern world witnessed one yesterday. Anwar Ibrahim; Malaysia's charismatic ex-deputy premier and finance minister, was convicted on trumped-up corruption charges nearly eight months after being fired by veteran Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad. The trial, after which the reformist Anwar was sentenced to six years in jail, was ostensibly hearing four charges that he abused power to cover up allegations of illegal homosexual encounters. But the conduct of the hearing during which the defendant was beaten up, his lawyer charged with contempt, the charges altered when prosecution witnesses admitted they had been coerced into making false accusations, and defence testimonies ruled irrelevant - lent weight to Anwar's claim that he was the victim of a government conspiracy. The real issue in the Kuala Lumpur courtroom was the erosion of freedom; Malaysian justice, it emerges from the five-month hearing, is

now both blind and handcuffed. The verdict brings one short-term political benefit to Dr Mahathir, in power for nearly 18 years. It rids him of a potent rival for power in elections due in the next year. Anwar will appeal against a sentence which he says "stinks to high heaven". But even one year of prison will bar him from seeking office for five years after release.

The Malaysian Prime Minister's visible manipulation of justice to suit his represnim ill even in the short term. It has earned him the opprobrium of the international community, strained relations with

bouring states and provoked criticism from human rights groups. At home, it has awakened dormant discontents of a society already struggling after last year's Asian economic upheaval. The young, the sophisticated and the intellectually unfettered -Anwar's constituency — are slipping beyond the reach of government censorship by discussing the need for reform on the Internet. The Government's attempt to use sexual smears against Anwar has brought the country's Malay Muslim majority, the backbone of Dr Mahathir's ruling UMNO party, closer to the popular Anwar. Riots and street rallies greeted his sacking and arrest last September. Yesterday's verdict and sentencing were marked by more street battles.

A new force is emerging in Malaysia, as a result of opposition to the very trial that was intended to stifle its birth. Anwar's wife, Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, has become the focus for demands for democratic reform. She plans to head the newly-formed National Justice Party in seeking a change of government. The party, the most genuinely cross-cultural movement to take shape in Malaysia's landscape of traditional communal politics, blends Malays, Islamists and secular ethnic Chinese; with time, it hopes to transform the country's race-based politics into a mature democracy. Even if Anwar is incarcerated in prison, and even if enthusiasm for reform does not translate into votes in the next elections, opposition leaders say that they, unlike the 73-year-old Dr Mahathir, can afford to take the long view. Justice, with the support of the young, may yet have the last laugh.

A TOMB WITH A VIEW

A Roman sarcophagus with a tale to tell

As any child probing the parcels under the expensive craftsmanship. This grave con-Christmas tree knows, expectation is just as thrilling as revelation. The locked door, the fastened chest, the sealed letter, all send shivers of surmise up the spine. Mysteries tantalise. Thus did the hearts of archaeologists began to beat last month when a Roman sarcophagus, an elaborate lead coffin encased inside, was discovered in Spitalfields in east London. The plot was set and a great British historical detective

story was about to start. Almost 150 years have passed since a similar Roman coffin was unearthed, the Minories Sarcophagus, now on display in the British Museum. Although this funerary case with its central medallion and iron brackets was in some ways more ornate than the new Spitalfields find, it was not unearthed in an archaeological investigation. Few details of its context were

recorded. This is where the Museum of London's coffin becomes so important. Accompanying artefacts of a type never before retrieved from Roman Britain have been found, a glass vial and jet canister, along, intriguingly, with a spindle whorl. These are the sort of clues from which the identity of the dead person will be pieced together. The tomb is probably that of a wealthy woman. The value of the grave goods probably personal possessions - point to

trasts strikingly with those unearthed near by of the Roman Britons buried only in wooden cases and shrouds.

Last night, as the lead coffin was carefully prised open, historians stood reverently, nerves overwrought. In one sense this was already a tiny crux point of time, when the past, soaring out across the centuries, brushed the mind of the present with the tips of its wings. But what was revealed was only the beginning of future research. Modern scientific instruments and methods probe historical relics in unprecedented ways. X-rays. CAT-scans and DNA tests of Egyptian mummies, for example, have revealed biological data about diet, health, life expectancy and disease of people who walked the Earth some 3,000 years ago.

Just as importantly, death and the customs that surround it lay bare the human mind. Fears expose societies' nerves. Funerary monuments reveal, perhaps more clearly than anything, the hopes and beliefs of the people they serve. From the sensational discovery of the Museum of London's Roman sarcophagus, modern Britons will not just learn a few more facts about the people who once colonised this country, laying the foundations of the present day world. They may also find more of those emotional links through

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

! Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Allied 'mistakes' in the Balkans

هكذا من الأصل

From Mr Frederick Forsyth

Sir. There are no military analysts left who do not concede, sometimes only privately, that Operation Kosovo is the worst-planned military adventure this country has been involved with since Suez. Only the provable and laudable fact that it stemmed from humanitarian rather than imperialist motives saves it from complete deri-

That said, it is clearly riven from top to bottom by incompetent political interference for which Messrs Clinton and Blair must bear the responsibility. It has long emerged as a oneoption gamble; that Mr Milosevic will, in fairly short order, capitulate to all demands. And if he does not? What is Plan B? Blank faces; there is no Plan B and never was, Blair, Cook and Robertson are just flying kites.

Events have overtaken them all. Rambouillet is dead in the water. Among other things it provided for the continued thralldom of Kosovo by Milosevic with 10,000 Serbian police as security force. One might as well now propose a Jewish enclave of over a million souls protected by 10,000 Waffen-SS.

Mr Cook talks of continuing to bomb "as long as it takes". That is not good enough; there is a ticking clock here. In 40 more days there will probably not be a Kosovo left to liberate or a population left to restore. The former is being reduced to a scorched charnel-house; the West will be left with half a million women, children and geriatrics to care for.

Ms Vanora Bennett castigates me (article, April 13) for suggesting aid to the Kosovo Liberation Army, which she dismisses as "dogs of war" and "terrorists". The former fight only for money; the difference between a terrorist and a partisan depends simply on whose side you happen to

One understands that 200,000 male Kosovans are now hiding out in the mountains and forests inside Kosovo. They appear hungry, cold and un-armed. They need warm gear, food and weapons if they are to fight back. We could and should air-drop them what they need, along with Special Forces liaison officers, target-markers, radio-links, aggressive air cover and heli-borne re-supply.

The KLA alone can do nothing; air cover alone can do nothing. But co-ordinate the two and you have a fighting force. Who else is to stop Milosevic's "murder machine" (Tony Blair) as it mass-murders and gangrapes its path across Kosovo? It is, after all, the Kosovans' homeland, not ours. Who are we to forbid them to fight for it?

Yours sincerely, FREDERICK FORSYTH, c/o Bantam Books, 62-63 Uxbridge Road, W5 5SA. April 14.

From Mr Chris Kimberley

Sir. Despite the opposing spin applied by the UK Government and Nato, it is evident that the present strategy in Yugoslavia is not achieving the declared objectives rapidly. The plight of the ethnic Albanians has turned into a chaotic exodus in the face of genocide, the Serbs' capacity to commit atrocities has scarcely been diminished and Nato is not likely to be configured for a war on the ground in the region for some time.

This situation has been exacerbated, I believe, because Nato planners and the member governments failed to understand the intensity of nationalism in Yugoslavia. While diplomacy might ultimately have provided a solution, the Damoclean threat of Nato bombing did not provide an environment in which the Paris talks had any chance of success. The resulting campaign has had the effect of turning some sympathetic Serb opinion against the Nato member governments.

In the face of rampant riationalism the US and the UK have pursued and sponsored diplomatic solutions to the problems in Northern Ireland and on the West Bank of the Jordan, despite the fact that negotiators speak on behalf of terrorists. This is in stark contrast to President Clinton threatening that Nato would have little option other than attack if negotiations with

Serbia failed. A great deal of effort is now being made in Nato to ensure that member governments hold the line. If Nato cannot immediately take action on the ground in defence of the Kosovo refugees, greater effort should be taken to achieve a diplomatic solution.

Yours faithfully. CHRIS KIMBERLEY, Tirion Pelyn, Plas-y-Wern. Gilfach Rheda, Newquay. Ceredigion SA45 9ST. chris.kimberley@btinternet.com April 13.

From the Reverend Giles Hunt

Sir, Since Nato is bombing Serbia illegally, without either having declared war or obtained UN authority, will the pilot whose "error" led to the train being bombed face criminal charges (report, April 14)? Or does international law only apply to those we dislike, such as General Pinochet?

Yours faithfully. GILES HUNT. The Cottage, The Fairstead, Cley-next-Sea.

Instruments in a living museum

From the President of the International Society of Violin and Bow Makers

Sir, Your correspondents Mr Robert Barclay and Mr Andy Lamb (April 12) take the blinkered museum line that old musical instruments exist solely to be conserved, for the most part mutely, by panels of their so-called qualified experts.

It is nonsense to say, as Mr Barclay does, that "there is no such thing as a 'Stradivari sound'", and the late Lord Menuhin, while giving every encouragement to the violin makers of his own time (letter, October 17, 1997). would have been the first to give credit to the range of uniquely beautiful tone colours made available for his performances by the genius of Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri, both of whom died more than 250 years ago. Furthermore Lord Menuhin was, like many professional and amateur musicians, a very careful

There is certainly an argument for maintaining in museum conditions a very small percentage of the important old instruments, mainly those that have come down in immaculate preservation. Up to two dozen Stradivaris might qualify in this respect out of about 600 that survive.

The Royal Academy of Music's initiative should be welcomed. There is nothing elitist about public musical performance; indeed what could, better than concerts, offer Mr Lamb his "wide-ranging public access sched-ules for all levels of society"?

Yours faithfully, CHARLES BEARE, President, The International Society of Violin and Bow Makers, 7 Broadwick Street, WIV 1FJ. April 13.

From Professor Denis Stevens

Sir, The plan for instruments evolved by Dr Curtis Price (report, April 7) is admirable and unassailable. The exercise of wood particles is as

Employee surveillance

Sir, I enjoyed Alison Clarke's excellent

article ("Employees under surveil-

lance", Law, April 6), and would

support the proper regulation of

Human Rights ruled that Alison Halford's right of privacy had been

infringed when her employer, the

Merseyside Police Authority, inter-

cepted the private telephone calls she

Unfortunately the Court did not

make such a definitive ruling. It held

that it would not accept as a general

principle that employers have a right

to tap telephone calls made by

However, the Court went on to say

that, as long as employers warn their

staff that their calls could be tapped,

there would be no breach of the right

covert surveillance by employers.

She save that the Fi

made from her office.

employees at work.

From Ms Gillian S. Howard

to privacy as guaranteed by the

European Convention.

It would, of course, be best practice for employers to warn their staff and we wait to see if this Government will press ahead with legislation that will require employers to disclose the fact of any surveillance to their workforce, including telephone tapping, save in cases where this would lead to destruction of vital evidence or would

prevent the detection of crime. Until the Human Rights Act is fully implemented and judges get to grips with the implications of human rights as guaranteed by conventions and charters ratified by the UK decades ago, employees will have few, if any. rights of privacy at work.

From Lieutenant S. B. Moore, RN

Sir, If I might be forgiven for disagreeing with a superior officer,

unlike Captain W. K. Benbow (letter,

April 10) I do not find the lack of

interest in our national day bemusing

or disheartening. Rather, it has

always struck me as being a typical

reflection of the Englishman's reluc-

I do agree, however, that the subject

is worthy of study, but I feel any investigation would be of greater

benefit if it could address means by

which our fellow countrymen might

be encouraged to take pride in their

Sir. Captain Benbow should take

heart from the Scots, who celebrate a

poet instead of their national saint.

Surely England could do the same?

nation every day of the year.

tance to cause a fuss.

Yours faithfully,

SEAN MOORE.

April 11.

19b Granard Road,

London SW12 8UJ.

From Dr Ian Olson

sbmoore@dial.pipex.com

Larkin Day sounds jolly.

Yours faithfully,

IAN OLSON,

20 Burns Road

April 11.

Monday.

Yours etc.

PO Box 110.

Aberdeen ABI5 4NS.

From Mr Richard Johnson

as the date for every year.

RICHARD JOHNSON.

Worsthorne Village.

Lancashire BBI0 3SQ.

Sir, Captain Benbow's exhortation for

Englishmen to make a greater effort

to identify and thoroughly enjoy our

national day, ends by giving April 23

Yours faithfully. GILLIAN S. HOWARD (Employment lawyer). 34 Lyndale Avenue, Childs Hill, NW2 2QA. gillianh@dircon.co.uk April 7.

Electing the Lords A proper pride

From Captain M. H. Elliott

Sir, 1 note from your front page today that the Tory party "is on the brink of backing radical proposals for a directly elected House of Lords".

What a sorry mess our constitution is in when, in the last year of the 20th century, a directly elected second chamber of Parliament is considered 'radical".

MARCUS ELLIOTT, Pen Dinas, Great Orme. Llandudno, Conwy LL30 2QL. April 12.

From the Reverend David E. Flavell

Sir, I am delighted that Leonard Allen (letter, April 6; see also letters, April 13) thinks that the House of Lords is "unique" and that its freedom from party restraint is "refreshing and, on occasions, extremely valuable". I

Seeing as we disagree, can we have a vote on it?

Yours sincerely, DAVID E. FLAVELL, 39 Halkyn Avenue, Liverpool L17 2AH.

Protection of birds From Eleanor Batchelor

Sir, Whilst visiting my Grandma. who lives on an unmade road full of puddle-filled potholes, I observed a

strange sight. A bird of prey was unmistakably trying to drown a blackbird in a puddle, by holding its prey under the water. It sat on the blackbird so that it was completely submerged.

Not so, Captain. Next year (2000) Is this a common phenomenon? Easter Day falls on April 23 and the (I could not bear to watch so I saved ecumenical body has postponed St the blackbird by scaring away the George's Day eight days until May 2 hawk.) the day after May Day, which itself Yours faithfully, falls only one week after Easter

ELEANOR BATCHELOR (aged 10). 2 Swanmore Park House. Upper Swanmore, Hampshire SO32 2QS April 14.

brain medicine essential as the exercise of grey matter. But there appears to be some From Mr Peter J. Hamlyn confusion between infused tone and Sir. The Stroke Association is to be natural timbre. A memoir of the

Norwegian virtuoso violinist Olé Bull,

published in 1886, quotes him as

saying that the violins of Gaspar da

Salo and Guarneri have the sound of

a trumpet or horn, while Strads

remind him of a clarinet. A Maggini

tends to be grand but somewhat hollow, while Andrea Amati is sweet

extracted by a great violinist depends

on a unique combination of subtle

intelligence and the hairsbreadth

control of minute muscles. I have heard Yehudi Menuhin play on quite

inferior instruments owned by stu-

dents, but the tone he extracted was

immediately recognisable as part of

his musical personality. Good luck to

Sir, I would be intrigued to know the

reaction of British Reserve, this

country's foremost insurer of musical

instruments, to Andy Lamb's asser-

tion that "the inevitable destruction of

cultural heritage" will be the result of

Curtis Price's interesting proposals

for the Royal Academy of Music's

private collection of instruments. Mr

Lamb also states that "musicians are

I am sure that if this was statistical-

ly proven, British Reserve's premi-

ums would be beyond the pocket of

today's performing musicians. Merci-

fully they are not. Many players shell

out very substantial sums to acquire

suitable instruments and consequent-

Gate Cottage, High Street, Hinxworth, Hertfordshire SG7 5HQ.

ly take very good care of them.

Yours faithfully,

JO COLE.

April 13.

notoriously ham-fisted".

the Royal Academy of Music.

Morden College, SE3 0PW.

On the other hand the tone

and vocal.

Yours etc.

April 12.

DENIS STEVENS,

From Miss Jo Cole

thoroughly congratulated for publishing today one of the first robust studies of care in the United Kingdom of an acute brain disorder. They have demonstrated in the context of stroke that in most of Britain fewer than half the victims are cared for in specialist units and that fewer than 3 per cent of the doctors looking after acute stroke victims are specialists in neurological disorders.

UK lags behind in

Stroke affects 130,000 people each vear, kills one in ten of us and leaves Il per cent of our hospital beds occupied by its disabled survivors. We have known this for many years but what the Stroke Association has just shown us is that as a result of our poor-quality care the death rate is probably 25 per cent higher than it

needs to be. The British Brain and Spine Foundation recently reported to the Health Minister Tessa Jowell the other worrying statistics, as best they are known, regarding neurological care in the UK. In no other OECD nation (the rich nations of the world) is there less than twice the number of neurosurgeons per head of population as is found in the UK. Many have ten

times the number. The neurological disorders are more common than heart disease or cancer. Head injury results in 150,000 admissions to hospital each year, dementia is more common than either head injury or stroke, epilepsy affects one in 200 of us, brain tumour 5,000 per year in addition to which one must add multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, Parkinson's disease, etc. They often affect the young, with head injury being the biggest killer of teenagers and males until their mid-twenties and brain tumours constituting the commonest solid cancer to affect children. We have the fifth highest stroke rate of any OECD nation and yet are left completely alone in defending a healthcare system that has so consistently and effectively under-resourced the care of brain and spine disorders.

<u>-</u>-

es

For too long this has been justified on the basis that the brain is too complicated an organ to treat. The advances of the past two decades have changed this. What has not changed is the proportion of our health resources directed towards the care of these disorders. The Stroke Association has shown us in this latest paper the bleak consequence of this inaction.

Yours faithfully, PETER J. HAMLYN (Consultant neurosurgeon), Vice-Chairman, British Brain & Spine Foundation. 7 Winchester House, Kennington Park, Cranmer Road, SW9 6EJ. April 14.

From the Chairman of Council of The Stroke Association and others

Sir. We are writing today to the Secretary of State for Health to urge him to increase the priority given to stroke care within the National Health Service. Although a target in Our Healthier Nation (February 1998), stroke care seems to be slipping down the healthcare agenda.

The Stroke Association's report. Stroke Care - a matter of chance. shows that there has been some improvement since our last survey in 1992. Unfortunately, with patients only having a 50:50 chance of access to a stroke unit, we still have a long way

As academics and health professionals actively employed in stroke prevention, treatment and care we reiterate the need for stroke units and plead that this need is met urgently.

Faithfully, SKELMERSDALE, Chairman of Council, The Stroke Association PHILIP BATH, Chair in stroke medicine, University of Nottingham. MARTIN DENNIS, Chairman, British Association of Stroke Physicians, The Stroke Association. Stroke House, Whitecross Street, ECIY 811. April 14.

Spirits of the age

From Mr John B. Murphy

Sir, In this street both the pub and the church have recently been converted into flats. Pray, Sir, how should I interpret these metamorphoses?

Yours faithfully. JOHN MURPHY. 4 Sparrow House, 73 Cephas Avenue, El 4AR. April 14.

Calendar girls

From Mr Douglas Marshall

Sir, A credit to the North and a joy to all are the comely ladies of the Rylstone Women's Institute (report and picture, April 13).

Such a challenge, nevertheless, should not remain unanswered. Forward, members of the Townswomen's

Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS MARSHALL 31 Gondar Gardens,

Forthcoming

marriages

and the Hon Lorna Weir

The engagement is announced

between Mark, son of Brigadier and Mrs Andrew Paviour, of Broughton, Hampshire, and Lor-

na. daughter of Viscount Weir, of

Rodinghead. Ayrshire, and Mrs

Brian Johnson, of London and

The engagement is announced

between Ben, only son of Tony and

Sylvia Teague, of Lichfield, Stat-

Sylvia Teague or and Gent daugh-fordshire, and Fiona, eldest daugh-

ak of Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield

The engagement is announced

between Raymond, son of Misse

and Albert Zelouf, of London, and

Lucy, daughter of Sue and John Pennicott of Melbourne, Australia

The marriage took place on April 10, at St Thomas's Church. Shel-

field, between Mr Christian Luft

son of Mr and Mrs R. Luft. of

Leigh-on-Sea, and Miss Rhiannon

Pratt, daughter of Dr and Mrs T.M. Pratt, of Fulwood, Sheffield.

The marriage took place on Satur-day, April 10, in St Asaph Cathe-dral, of Mr Jake Stratton, youngest

son of Mr and Mrs Michael

Stratton, of Stockton, Wiltshire, to Miss Alison Griffiths, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Griffiths, of Llandyrnog, Denbigh-shire. The Venerable John Davies

officiated and the Dean of St

Asaph read the Gospel.

The bride, who was given in

marriage by her father, was attended by her sisters. Miss Caroline and Miss Cordelia

Griffiths, and by Miss Virginia

Robertson, Miss Clare Wenham

and Rilla and Ellie Cotton. Mr

A reception was held at Glan-y-

Wern and the honeymoon is being

The marriage took place on Wednesday, March 31, in Sussex, between Simon Willbourn, eldest

son of Dr and Mrs A.H. Will-

bourn, of Aston, Hertfordshire, and Pearl Miskelly, elder daughter

of Mrs Margaret Calderwood and

the late Mr John Calderwood, of

Thoby Barlow was best man.

spent in Central America.

Mr S.A. Willbourn

and Mrs P. Miskelly

Coleraine, Co Antrim.

and Miss A.S.E. Griffiths

ter of Richard and Denise Wa

and Miss L.M. Pennicott

Scansano, Italy.

Mr R.L. Zelouf

Marriages

and Miss R.C. Pratt

Mr C.M. Luft

Mr.1C Stration

Mr B.T. Teague and Miss F. Wozniak



COURT CIRCULAR

April 14: The Duke of Gloucester

this morning called upon the

Mayor of Poznan (Mr Ryszard

Grobelny) and afterwards visited

the Old Town Square, Poznan. His Royal Highness later called

upon the Regional Governor (Ma

Maciej Musial) and the Marshal of

the Regional Government (Mr

Stanislaw Mikolajczak) and after-

wards visited the Poligrafia and Infosystem Trade Fairs, Poligrafia,

The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon attended a Service and

laid a Wreath at the Poznan Old

wealth War Graves Cemetery).

Later His Royal Highness visit-ed Glaxo-Wellcome to view the

Quality Control Laboratory, Poznan, Poland.

April 14: The Duke of Kent

President, The Stroke Association.

this afternoon attended the Interna-

rional Scientific Centenary Confer

ence at the Royal College of Physicians. II St Andrew's Place.

Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, 59; Dame Jocelyn Barrow.

former deputy chairman. Broad-

casting Standards Council, 70: Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, former civil

servant, 68; Group Captain David

Bolton, former Director, Royal

United Services Institute, 67; Pro-fessor Sir Michael Bond, Vice-Prin-

cipal, Glasgow University, 63; Sir Adrian Cadbury, former chairman,

Cadbury Schweppes, 70: Mr Tony Calvert, founder, Terrence Hig-

gins Trust, 43; Miss Claudia Cardinale, actress, 61; Sir Richard

Evans, former diplomat, 71; Lord

Geraint, 74; Professor Michael Gibbons, secretary-general, Associ-

ation of Commonwealth Universi-ties, 60: Sir Patrick Gillam, chair-

man, Standard Chartered, 66; Lord

Grey of Naunton, 89; Sir Tim

Lankester, director, School of Ori-

ental and African Studies, 57: Bar-oness Linklater of Butterstone, 56:

Sir Neville Marriner, conductor

75: Mr Alan Plater, scriptwriter, 64;

Mr A.J.P. Ross. former chairman,

Joint Consultants Committee, 64; Earl Russell, FBA, 62; Sir Maurice

Shock, former Rector. Lincoln College, Oxford, 73; Sir Leslie Smith, former chairman, BOC Group, 80; Mr G.H. Stafford, FRS,

former Master, St Cross College,

Oxford, 79; Miss Emma Thomp

son, actress, 40: Miss Meriol Trevor, author, 80; Dr Richard von

Weizsacker, former President of Germany, 79: Sir Douglas Wass,

Birthdays today

ST JAMES'S PALACE

WINDSOR CASTLE April 14: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh today gave a Reception at Windsor Castle for members of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association. WINDSOR CASTLE

April 14: The Duke of Edinburgh. Patron, this evening attended a Dinner for Voluntary Service Overseas at Frogmore House, Windsor. **BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

April 14: The Princess Royal. President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, this morning visited the Route 53 Mentoring Plus Project, Brentford Avenue, Cheetham. Manchester, and attended a Seminar at the University of Manches-ter's Refectory Building and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester (Colonel John Timmins).

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited Manchester High School for Girls, during their 125th Anniversary year, at Grangeth-orpe Road. Manchester. The Princess Royal later visited St Ann's Hospice, Little Hulton, Salford, Manchester.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as patron, the Manchester Grammar School Foundation Bursary Appeal, will visit the school, at 10.20; and will visit Ducie High School at noon. The Princess Royal, as patron. Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, attend its spring meeting at York University at 10: opens the Rutland Family Support Centre at the Parks School, Oakham, at 1.50; opens Voluntary Action Rutland's Volunteer Centre at 2.40: will visit Rutland Electric Fencing to mark its 25th anniverary at 3.35; and will present traditional horseshoe, requested of peers of the realm, to the Lord of the Manor at Oakham Castle at 4.25. Later, as patron, the Develop ment Trust (for the mentally handicapped) will attend a diruner at II Hill Street. London at 7.45. The Duchess of Gloucester will attend a service of thanksiving to mark the centenary of the League Bartholomew-the-Great church. West Smithfield. London, at 4.55. Princess Alexandra will attend the 20th reunion dinner of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association at the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company. Armoury House, London, at 7.15. For more details about the Royal Family visit the royal website at: www.royal.gov.uk

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Leonhard Euler, mathematician and physicist, Basle, 1707; Sir James Clark Ross, Arctic explorer, London, 1800: Benjamin Jowett, scholar, London, 1817; Henry James, writer, New York, 1843; Stanley Bruce, 1st Viscount Bruce of Melbourne, Prime Minister of Australia 1923-29. Melbourne, 1883: Bessie Smith. "Empress of the Blues , Chattanooga, Tennessee. 1894.

DEATHS: Richard Mulcaster, author, Stanford Rivers, Essex, 1611; Abraham Lincoln, 16th American President 1861-65, assassinated at Ford's Theatre, Washington, 1865: Matthew Arnold, poet and critic, Liverpool, 1888; William Thomas Titanic, 1912; John Singer Sargent, portrait painter, London, 1925; Sartre, Existentialist, Paris, 1980: Greta Garbo, actress, New York, 1990.

Dinners

Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were the hosts at the Easter banquet held last night at the Mansion House in honour of Members of the Diplomatic Corps and their escorts, together with the Sheriffs, members of the Court of Aldermen and the Court of Common Council and Officers of the Corporation of London and their escorts. The Lord Mayor, the Ambassador of Lebanon and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs were the speakers. Among those present were: Mrs Robin Cook, the Speaker, Mr Murdo Maclean, the Lord Chamberlain and Lady Camoys, the Bishop of London and Mrs Chartres, Lord Hurd of Westwell, CH, Lord and Lady Levy, Sir Peter Studd, Mrs Anne Hervey-Bathurst, the Permanent Under Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service and Lady Kert. the Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps and the Hon Lady Weatherall, and the Vice-Marshal of the Lord Elibank

Lord Elibank was the host at a dinner held last night at the House of Lords for the Parliamentary Group for Energy Studies. Dr Kim Howells, Minister for Competition and Consumer Affairs, was the guest of honour.

Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers Admiral Sir Derek Reffell, Master of the Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers, pre-sided at the livery's annual Motor Industry dinner held last night at Butchers' Hall. Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Mullens, and Mr Bill Morris, General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, also spoke. The Chair-man and Managing Director of the Ford Motor Company and the Director-General of the Defence Manufacturers Association were

among the guests. A Motor Centenary Livery Bur-sary was awarded to Mr Nicholas

Legal appointments Mr Justice Mance, 55, to be a Lord Justice of Appeal from April 28. He will replace Lord Justice Hirst, who is retiring on April 27. Mr Justice Mance was appointed a judge of the High Court (Queen's Bench Division) in 1993.

Mr Thomas Simon Ashwell Hawkesworth, QC, 55, to be a Circuit Judge on the North Eastern Circuit. He became a deputy Circuit Judge in 1980 and a Recorder in 1982.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Bathurst was chris-tened Hermione Mary Callander by the Rev Christopher Cooke at St Peter's, Wrockwardine, on Sunday, April II. The godparents are Mr Duncan Hill, Mr Simon Leschallas. Mrs Charles Houston and Mrs Jolyon Prowse.

Dr Samuel Johnson published his Dictionary, 1755. The White Star liner Titanic struck an iceberg and sank with the loss of more than 1,500 lives, 1912. Sir James Barrie donated the copyright fee of his play Peter Pan tal for Sick Children, London, 1925. The population of Malta was awarded the George Cross for gallantry during the Second World War, 1942.



Alan Howarth at Ponsanooth Chapel yesterday with Candy Atherton, MP for the area

15 Cornish chapels listed

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES SOUTH-WEST CORRESPONDENT

CORNWALL's finest Nonconformist chapels have been protected for posterity after a five-year study by English Heritage.

Alan Howarth, the Arts minister, announced yesterday that 15

chapels have been listed and 12 upgraded. It is the first time one type of historic building has been so comprehensively surveyed to ensure the best examples survive. In the 19th century Cornwall had more than 700 chapels attended by more than two thirds of the population, inspired by preachers like John Wesley and Billy Bray. Standing amid the polished splendour of the Ponsanooth

Methodist Chapel near Truro, Mr Howarth said: "These chapels are an important part of the rich an important part of the rich heritage of Cornwall, not only for their architectural quality but for their religious and social impact. I hope that listing will cause more people to look at and admire these remarkable buildings. At the opposite end of the scale

of opulence, the cob and thatch of

the Friends Meeting House at Come-to-Good near Truro has been uprated to Grade I status, the only chapel to be so honoured. The Rev Dr Stephen Dawes, chairman of the Cornwall Methodist District, said: "There is terrific variety in Methodist chapels. You have some that take 30 or 40 people and are no more than four walls and a roof. Then you have the 1,200

raised pulpits and galleries. It is like being on stage in a playhouse from Shakespeare's time.

or 1,300-seater chanels, with their

galleries and central pulpits. What makes them fascinating is their vernacular nature. Some were liter-

ally put up in the evenings by

miners quarrying local stone. They were people-built, people designed

and people-friendly."

Dr Dawes said the chapels'

design made preaching before a

large congregation a daunting experience. For Methodists the

spoken word is the most impor-

tant thing. Even in the large

chapels the farthest pew might be only 70 or 80ft away, thanks to the

Even with the decline in church and chapel-going there are still 300 Nonconformist chapels open.

Omagh, Walkers Bulbs. of Spaid-

ing, Broadleigh Gardens, of Taun-

ton, and R.A. Scamp, of Falmouth,

won a gold medal.

April sweetpeas win gold

By AJAN TOOGOOD HORTICULTURE

THE heady fragrance of sweetpeas, the more subtle scent of daffodils. and tropical pitcher plants dripping with moisture may seem an unlikely mix, but they were part of a varied spring flower show staged by the Royal Horticultural Society.

It is no mean achievement to put on a large display of sweetpea

Harrogate Ladies' College opened

for the Summer Term on Wednes-day, April 14. The new Housemis-

tress of the Junior House, Oak-dale, Mrs Patricia Fenwick, takes

up her appointment this term. The

principal events this term include:

The Choir will sing Evensong in

York Minster on April 26; Choir Valedictory, July 4; UK Junior Mathematical Challenge, April 27; Lincoln House Carnival, May 2;

)nen Teachine Day, May 3, with

BBC Radio Daily Service live

broadcast from the College Chap-el; HCU Biennial Reunion and

Chapel service, May 15: Cheese

and Wine Art Exhibition, May 27.

Harrogate Ladies'

College

bridge, won a gold medal.

Another gold medal went to Hampshire Carnivorous Plants, of

Southampton, Hampshire, for a naturalistic display of "insect eaters", including tropical pitcher plants, trumpet pitchers in flower, and the hardy butterwort, Pinguicula grandiflora, with purple flowers. Among several displays of daffodils at the show at Westminstfer, which ended yesterday, the

Sports Day will take place on

May 28, from 2pm until 4.15pm.

followed by the Commemoration Service at 5.30pm in St Wilfrid's

Church - Preacher, the Right Rev

Dr David Jenkins.
The Parents & Friends of HLC

Summer Garden Party will be held

on June 6; An Evening at the Races, June 16; Three Peaks at-

tempt over June 19 and 20. Speech

Day and Prizegiving in the Royal Hall, July 3 at 2.15pm — Guest Speaker, Her Honour Judge Eliza-

Ball at the Old Swan Hotel at 7pm.

Schools Junior Lacrosse Tourna-

ment at Wirral, April 24; Aberdare

Cup Tennis at HLC, April 29;

Sporting events include: North

Diane Sewell, of Ober, Cam-

"Pink Elf".

it also showed several new epimedium hybrids raised by Robin White, its proprietor, including Beckett Park Finals, July 6. Church news Half term is from May 28 after Commemoration to June 6: term The Rev Brian Anderson, Rector.

finishes at the end of the teaching

day on July 7.

The College is pleased to announce the following Scholarships awarded to girls joining the school in September 1999: Trigg Minor and Bodmin (Truro). to be Prebendary of St Endellion (same diocese).
The Rev Christopher Collingwood, foromerly Canon Residentiary and Precentor of Guildford Cathedral At eleven plus: Annabel Eager (Froebelian, Leeds); Natalie Woods (Richmond House, Leeds). At thirteen plus: Tanya Burton (St Mar-Mr Philip Cunningham, NSM tin's School, Nawton, York). At Curate, York St Olave w St Giles,

award. Harrogate Ladies' College is a registered Charity no 529579. Providing quality educa-tion for girls since 1893.

(Harrogate Grammar School) has

been awarded a double music

and Mary, elder daughter of Mr Richard Hancock, of St Mabyn, Cornwall, and Mrs John Newey. of Ruan Lanihorne, Cornwall. Mr D. Butterworth and Dr M. Ansley-Watson The engagement is announced between Damian, eldest son of Mr

Mr M.J. Baker

and Miss S.H. Johnstone The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and

Appleton, Oxfordshire.

Lieutenant J.J.M. Black.

Royal Navy. and Miss M.F. Hancock

Mrs John Baker, of Tavistock,

Devon, and Sarah, daughter of Mr

and Mrs Clive Johnstone, of

The engagement is announced

between Jamie, only son of

Captain John Black, of Uckfield,

East Sussex, and Mrs Georgina Black, of Titchfield, Hampshire.

and Mrs Peter Butterworth. of Hill Head. Hampshire, and Michelle, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Ansley-Watson, also of Hill Head, Hampshire. The marriage will take place in October. Mr P.E.M. Davison and Miss S.E. Walton

The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of Mr and Mrs M.C. Davison, of Watford, Hertfordshire, and Sophia, daugh ter of the late Mr J.D. Walton and of Mrs J.M. Cohen, of London.

Senhor M.C. Fagundes and Miss K.L. Simpson The engagement is announced between Marcelo, son of the late Dr Alcyone Fagundes and of Dr Lea Fagundes, of Porto Alegre, Brazil, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Simpson, of Barnes, London.

Mr S.E.C. Gordon and Miss A.J. Mackenzie The engagement is announced perween Stuart, only son of the late Mr Douglas Gordon and of Mrs Gordon, of Barnes, and Andrea. younger daughter of the late Mr James Mackenzie and of Mrs

Mackenzie, of West Byfleet, Surrey. Mr R.A. Lade and Miss B.L. Farrelly The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Major and Mrs Alexander Lade, of

Bishops Waltham, Hampshire, and Bridget, daughter of Major and Mrs Patrick Farrelly, of Several outstanding new plants were launched, including Clematis cartmanii "Avalanche", from Blackthorn Nursery, of Alresford, Hampshire. The Blackthorn exhib-Upavon, Wiltshire. Mr G.S. Molyneux and Miss R.E.R. Deans

The engagement is announced lyneux, late of Castle Dillon, Co Armagh, and Rosemarrie Elgeta Ruena Deans.

Wadebridge, and Rural Dean of

be Chaplain, Chigwell School

and teacher. Minster School

(York), to be Team Vicar, Haxby w

Wigginton (same diocese). The Rev Francis Daborn, Priest-in-

Charge, Tibberton w Bolas Magna

and Waters Upton, and Local

Ministry Adviser (Lichfield), to be Director of Local Ministry and Principal of the Local Ministry Training Course (same diocese). Croydon, Woodside St Luke (Southwark), to be Team Vicar, Sanderstead All Saints (same diocese). Prebendary Tim Gouldstone, Director of Lav Training and Priestin-Charge, Lamorran and Menher and St Michael Penkevil, and

Rural Dean of Powder (Truro), to

be Honorary Canon of Truro

dary of St Endellion. The Rev Martyn Green, Vicar. Ossett cum Gawthorpe (Wakefield), to be Team Rector, Haxby w Wigginton (York).

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE; 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

The LORD says: My servant will succeed! He will be will succeed: He will be given great praise and the highest honours. Many were horrified at what happened to him. But everyone who saw him was more horrified because he suffered un-til he no longer looked because ne surre til he no longer look Isa 52.13-14(CEV).

ACWORTH - On 9th April to Caroline and Robert, a daughter, Delilah, a sister for Theo and Flynn. ARCADU - On April 7th 1999 at The Portland Hospital, to Laura and Roberto, a daughter, Mathilda Rose. AUNGLES - On 9th April. to Kate inée Chadder and Glenn, the blessing of a son, Aidan Foster Tom, a brother to Harvey. BRUNSBERG - On April 10th at The Portland Hospital.

to Ellen and Ray, a girl, Sarah Cassiopla, a siste and foil for Rebecca. CHILTON - On 31st March, to Rosemary (née Golding) and Christopher. a daughter. Imogen Sarah Jane, a sister for Jasmine Rebecca Anne.

REDECCE ANDE.

DAVISON - On April 8th, to
Joenne (née Selmon) and
Alex, a daughter. Laura
Kathrya, a beautiful sister
for Sophie. DEL AZAR - On April 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Helen and Juan, a daughter, Elisa Helen, a sister for Juan Lucas and

DICKSON - Graham and Nine (née Davis) are proud to announce the birth of

EWBANK - On April 7th. York District Hospital, to Nichola (née Serle) and Simon, a precious son. Harry Simon. JACKSON MAYHEW - On March 22nd in Chile, to Louisa (née Mayhew) and

LEE - On April 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Margo (née McCaulley) and Fitzhugh, a daughter, Hayley, a saster for Fitzie. LEONARD - On 6th April to Antigone (née Dean) and Tony, a son Ivo Joseph NIBLSEN - On April 11th, to

Caroline (née Maltzia) and Poul, a beautiful daughter. PAGONIS - On 12th April in Cambridge, to Kathryn and Constantine, a daughter, Ariadne Kathryn.

PAYNTER - Helen (née Batchelor) and Stephen are delighted to announc the arrival of a beautiful daughter, Susanna Joy, o 2nd March 1999.

BIRTHS

PICALEK - On April 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Comp and Michael, a daughter, Selina Tamara, a sister for Kevin.

ARCHER - Robin on 11th
April peacefully in a
nursing home aged 83.
Much loved husband to his
late wife Cherrie and his
sons Neville and Colin and
his seven grandchildren,
together with all his
relatives and friends. The
funeral service will be held
on Monday 19th April in
The West Chapel, Putney
Vale Crematorium,
Loudon SW15 at 12.15,
family flowers only.

Legion or The Royal Green Jackets Museum may be sent c/o J.H. Kenyon, Funeral Directors, 49 Marioss Road, Kensington

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call DEATHS

READ - On April 10th, 1999, to Clare (nee Attenborough) and Nick, a son (Henry Edward

WESON - On April 3rd at The Homerton Hospital to Tracy (use Lewis) and Michael, the gift of a beautiful baby boy, Oscar Paschal.

DEATHS

BARKER - (Henry) Michael on April 10th 1999, suddenly while fishing, aged 76. Dearly loved husband of Marianne; loving father of Romilly, Mailory and Lulu and devoted grandfather of May, Thomas, Hal, Charlie and Alice. Puneral at Chelses Old Church on Thursday 22nd April 1999. Thursday 22nd April 1999 at 11 am. Family flowers only. If desired, donations to The Royal British

London W8 6LA

service at which at are welcome at St Mary's Church, Hayes, Bromley Kent on Thursday 22nd April at 1 pm. Please family flowers only. Donations to Cancer

CHETON - (Judith) Clare died peacefully on Sunday April 11th. Much loved wife of Simon and very dear mother of Jessica, Samantha and Nicola. Dearest daughter of Gwenllian and the late Sir Meredith Whittaker and gister to Paul. She will he sister to Paul. She will be deeply missed but fondly remembered by all her family and friends. A Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday

April 21st at 2.00pm at St Leonard's Church. Chesham Bois, Family

BROCK - Cecil Patrick, stage.

film and television actor.
died peacefully at Mount
Vernon Hospital on 13th
April 1999 following a
short illness. Born Dublin
1915 and long time
resident of Chelsea, he had
lived since 1997, very
contentedly, at Denville
Hall, Northwood. Funeral
Service at Breakspear
Crematorium on Tuesday
20th April at 2.30 pm (East
Chape). Donations if
desired to Denville Hall
c/o Bradley & Jonas. 7
Love Lane, Pinner,
Middlesex HA5 3EE 0181
866 0088.

CLEAVEH - John Anthony
Schastian, Director of the
British Council Aden,
Yemen, beloved son of
Robert Anthony and
Jacqueline Cleaver of
Alfreton, Derrhyshire, died
at home on 29th March
1999 aged 54.
Thankagiving Service at
the Parish Church, Church
Street, Alfreton, on
Thurday 6th May at
2.30pm. No flowers.
Donations to local cancer
research c/o Mrs J.A.
McCane Whitney.

COLCHESTER - Ruth
Marjorie (nee Edmundson)
nescefully on 10th April at Yemen, beloved son of Robert Anthony and Jacqueline Cleaver of Alfreton, Derbyshire, died at home on 29th March 1999 aged 54. Thanksgiving Service at the Parish Church, Church Street, Alfreton

CASTLE - Kathleen Mary peacefully on 6th April, beloved wife of the late Goorge Castle, mother of Rosemary and Steven and grandmother of Richard, William, Oliver and Rapert. Cremation at Altriacham Crematorium at 2.30 pm on Friday 16th April. No flowers.

CHESWORTH - Barbara Joan on April 9th 1999 aged 49. beloved wife of Graham and mother of David and Helen. Private cremation followed by Thanksgiving Service at which all are walcome at St Marva. Research Campaign c/o F.A. Albin & Sons, Arthur Stanley House, 52 Culling Road, SE16 2TN.

Chesnam Bols. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The Bruce Trust, PO Box 21, Hungerford. Berkebire RC17 9YY. Enquiries to H C Grimsteed Ltd. 01494 434303

COLCHESTER - Ruth
Marjorie (née Edmundson)
peacefully on 10th April at
Rush Court Nursing
Home, Wallingford, Much
loved wife of the late Cecil
Francis, mother of Anne
and Stephen, grandmother
of James, Alexander,
Harry and Isobel, Funeral
Service at St Mary the
Virgin Iffley, Oxford at 12
noon on Thursday 22nd
April, Family flowers only.
Enquirles and donations
if desired to the
International Red Croes
c/o Howard Chadwick
Funeral Service, Tel 01491
825222.

DONOVAN - David Patrick died on 9th April 1999
after a long and
determined light against
cancer. A loving and much
loved father of Kate and Clare, daughters of Sally, dearly loved son of Pat and Phyl and loving companion to Kirstie. He faced the illness with outstanding strength, courage, faith and dignity. All his friends are invited An als friends are invited to a Requiem Mass to celebrate his life at The Church of St Francis De Sales, 16 Wellington Road Hampton Hill, Middlesex Hampton Hill, Middleesx at 2.15 pm on Monday 19th April, which will be followed by a private family cremation. No flowers please, donations to a Cancer Research/ Blind Charity of the Glyers choice

CRAWFURD - Kennath.
Beloved husband of Mary
and father of Raymond,
Julian and Charles. Died
peacefully at home on
April 8th, aged 94. Private
cremation followed by
Memorial Service at
St. Giles' Church, Stoke
Poges on Friday April 18th

Poges on Friday April 18th at 11.30, and afterwards at

ur 11.30, and afterward; a Uplands. Family flowers only. Donations to the National Society for Epilepsy. Chalfont St Peter, Bucks.

FIET - Edgar aged 67 years, died very suddenly on Saturday 10th April 1999. Much loved by Suzanne, his son Matthew and daughter-in-law Penny and grandchildren Emily and Molly, he will be sadly missed by all his friends and family. Requiem at Holy Redeemer Church, Cheyne Row, Chelsea at 10.30 am on Friday 23rd April 1999. Private crematorium committal.

FRANCE - On 11th April HANCE - On 11th April
1999, at home in
Edinburgh, Anne Bruce
(née Headridge), dariling
wife of Gerry, much loved
mother of Nicola and
mother-in-law of Donald
and dear Granns of Julian
and Rosie. At her own
request a private funeral
has already taken placa.

GRIFFITHS - M.A. On Friday 2nd April 1999 at Swanses South Wales, Colin Pitchford Criffiths. Funeral has taken place.

GUMMER - Revd Canon
Selvyn, peacefully on
April 13th in Suffolk aged
91. husband of the late
Sybille Gummer and much
loved father and
grandfather. Funeral at St
Andrew's Church,
Winston, Suffolk at 1 pm
on Saturday April 24th.
R.I.P.

HOLLENDEN - Gordon, 3rd Baron; died peacefully in hospital following a short illness. Beloved husband of Sonja, lowing father and grandfather. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Mary's Church, Leigh on Wednesday 2lat April at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations to D.G.A.A. or Marie Curle Cancer Care, c/o Francis Chappell & Sons, 27 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1AR.

KAYE - Ruth née Edenborough peacefully in Petworth on 13th April aged 83. Much loved wife of the late George Kaye. Stepmother and friend of Stepmother and Irience Frank Kaye and Pat Kettle. Funeral at the Kettle. Fulleral at the Downs Crematorium. Brighton at 3 pm on Friday 23rd April. Family flowers. Donations if desired to M.I.N.D. via Brydens, Tillington, West Sussex, 01798 342174. KERNEDY - Gillian Mary of Rotherwick, Hampshire, died peacefully at Hampshire Clinic on 8th April 1999, Much loved wife of Alfred and loving mother of Tiffany and Zoë. Funeral to take place at Mattingley Church, Hampshire on 16th April 1999 at 11 am. Enquiries to Alexander & Dry. (01256) 344663.

844663.
LEIGHTON - Alan Frederick Charles, beloved husband and best friend of Audrey, died peacefully on 11th April. He faced his iliness with stoicism, and his strength and generosity of spirit was with him until the end. He will be greatly missed. Funeral Service will be held at \$1 John's Parish Church, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire on Monday 19th April at 12 noon. Flowers to George Parker & Sons, 113 Reading Road, Yateley, Hampshire. MARTIN - On 13th April.

IARTIN - On 13th April, marine - On 13th April, peacefully, Richard Carver, aged 65. Loving husband of Sally, father of Polly and Toby. Cremation on Tuesday 20th April at 11 am at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations to Salvation

Family flowers only, denations to Salvation Army, c/o E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1SD.

MORGAN - Dr Dennis Harry Morgan, Consultant Psychistries, suddenly on 11th April 1999. Much loved by all who knew him. Loving husband of Jackie, father to Jane, Stephen Harry, Helen and David and much loved son-in-law of Ada. Service to take place at St. Margarets Church, Kings Lynn on Tuesday April 20th at 11.00am followed by a private family cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations in aid of St Margarets Organ Fund and The Norfolk Ornthologist Association. All enquiries to R H Fayers and Son Funeral Directors, 42-43 Railway Road, Kings Lynn. 01553 691641.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

NEAVES - (Dr Dolan).
Josephine passed away
peacefully in Good Hope
Hospital on the morning of
10th April. She is dearly
missed by all her family
and especially by her
husband Michsel, their
chikiren Cathesine,
Michael, Elizabeth and
Helen and grandchildren
Becky, Clare and Matthew.
As Dr Dolan she practiced
in Sutton Coldfield for
over 30 years and was
highly regarded by
everyone. A Requiem Mass
will be held at Holy Cross,
Walmley, Sutton
Coldfield, on Wednesday
21st April at 12 noon
followed by burial at
Sutton Cemetary. If
wished donations to "CCU
Trust Fund" Good Hope
NHS Trust, Rectory Road,
B75 ZRR.
NOBLE - Irene, suddenly at
home on let April 1960

SHOWELL - Benjamin
Charles Dugard aged 23
years died tragically and
suddenly on Saturday
April 10th 1999. Funeral
Service at the Stoke
Gabriel Parish Church,
Stoke Gabriel, Totnes,
Devon on Tuesday April
20th at 12 noon. Family
flowers only but donation. B75 2RR
NOBLE - Ireme, suddenly at home on 1st April 1999.
Missed by family and friends. Funeral Service at the Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton on Monday 19th April at 3.00pm. Flowers may be sent to W. A. Stringer and Son, 12 Kensington Gardens, Brighton BN1 flowers only but donation if desired to The Primros Breast Care Appeal (Derriford Hospital Plymouth) or Special Trustees U.B.H. Trust Son. 12 Kensington
Gardens, Brighton BN1
4AL. Tel 01273 603806.
POPE - Charles Edwin died
suddenly on 11th April at
Pietermaritzburg, South
Africa. Rest In Peace.
REASON - Phills - Marches. Tristees U.B.H. Trust Fund Acc No. 04118 (Paedistric Neurosurgery) may be sent to Maunders Funeral Service, 27 Well Street, Paignton, Devon, tel: (01803) 556581. REASON - Philip Martyn, passed away peacefully or 13th April 1999, aged 92 years. Funeral Service at Reading Crematorium on Wednesday 21st April at 2pm. Flowers are welcome and men be seen a A.P.

and may be sent to A.B. Walker & Son Ltd., 36 Eldon Road, Reading. Berks. RG1 4DL.

SOLOMONS - Alec, aged 51, died peacefully on 13th April 1999 after a short lilness in Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford. Hospital, Guildford.
Dearly beloved husband
of Zena and devoted tather
of Penny and Paul and
loving grandfather of Alex
and Leo. He will be greatly
missed by his son-in-law
Peter. tamily and many
friends. Funeral service at
Liberal Jewish Cemetery,
Pound Lase. Willeeden,
London Friday 18th April
at 3.45pm. Family flowers
only. Donations if desired
to Cancer Research, c/o
Funeral Directors H.J.
Bent & Co., 343 Ladbroke
Grove. London W10 6HA.
A Memorial Service will
be arranged later. RENNE - John (Jack)
Alastair aged 80 peacefull
on April 12th Render
https://doi.org/10.1009/10 on April 12th. Much loved husband of Branda, adored father of Ken, Linda and Nick and dear friend to many. Funeral private. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at The Temple Church, EC4, on Thursday May 20th at 5 pm. No flowers but dones lons if desired to HAPA, Pryors Bank, Bishop's Park, SW6 3LA.

or donations to the Braemar Mountain Rescue Association c/o Graham MacDonald, School House Monaltrie, Balleter.

STEWART - John R. M.B.E., of Rivermill, London died pascefully at home on April 8th 1989. Much loved father of Jean and John, grandfather of Polly and Lucy. Private family cremation. Memorial Service to be announced soon. Donations if wished to Cancer Research. All enquiries to J.H. Kenyon. tel: 0171 834 4624.

SAFTERY - John Robert of Moseley, Birmingham died suddenly on April 5th 1999 while on holiday in Scotland. Funeral at Lodge Hill Crematorium, Birmingham on TIARKS - Moirs, died tragically 13th April 1999. Dearly loved by Alex, children and grandchildren. Funeral at St Mary's Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, Tuesday 20th April at 2:15 pm. No flowers please, donations to The Friends of the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. Birmingham on
Wednesday April 21st at
11.00am followed by a
service of thankagiving at
Edghaston Old Church at
12 noon. Flowers welcome

Westminster Hospital, London SW10, WHITE - Gladys Hebe
Kathavine, beloved wife of
Charles White, Much loved
mother and grandmother.
Died pacefully at St.
Marks Hospital,
Maidenhead, Berkshire on
Monday 12th April 1999.
Funeral private, Family
flowers only. Donations
(Alzhelmers Disease
Society) and enquiries to
F.G. Pymm Funeral
Director, tel. (01628)
623822.

Williamson - On April 11th
1999, very peacefully at his
home in Keisele, Suffolk.
Bill (late of Calcutta).
Degreat husband of Sylvie.
Funeral Service at Ipswich
Cramatorium West Chapel
on Thursday April 22nd at
2 pm. No flowers,
doustions if deelred made
psyable to British Heart

payable to British Heart Foundation, c/o Tony Browns Funeral Service, Saxmundhem, IP17 1DJ.

WITHERGTON - On April 9th
1999 peacefully in
Highgate after a short
illness, Morag (née
Morison), wile of the late
Alan Withington, mother
of John and Maraden,
grandmother of Letter grandmother of James, Angus, Charles and Andrew. Funeral Service at the United Reformed Church, Pond Square. Church, Pono Squan Highgate at 2 pm on Wednesday April 21st, followed by private action. Family flower ioliowed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to C.A.R.E. Walberton c/o Leverton & Sons Ltd., 1
Paramark Tarrage Fartis

WOODROFFE - Elizabeth Anne (née D'Arcy)
peacefully on 11th April
1999. Adored wife of Ivan
(Woody). Thanksgiving
Service at St Mary's
Church, Calne, Wiltshire
at 2.00 pm on Wednesday
21st April.

Denmark Terrace, Fortis Green, N2 9HG.

MEMORIAL SERVICES 🎻 BAEEY - A Memorial Service for the life and work of Robin Balley will be held at St Paul's Church,

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

HENNESSY - In loving memory of Eoghan, our derling son and brother, who died on 15th April eight years ago. 'And with the morn those angel faces smile, Which I have loved long since and lose. smile, Which I have long since, and lost awhile. Eilis, John.

SERVICES

AUGUST PARTNERS Nacional Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner that 01352715909 WANTED

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FRANK TUOHY

Frank Tuohy, writer, died in hospital in Shepton Mallet on April 11 aged 73. He was born on May 2, 1925.

lthough his creative output was relatively small in volume - as a novelist he was even more reticent than his admired E. M. Forster -Frank Tuohy came to occupy a position in contemporary English fiction which he made completely his own.

This had something to do with the fact that he was extraordinarily well travelled - in the sense that he had lived and worked in several widely differing countries and had absorbed their cultures and languages. But he did not deploy these experiences, as so many of his contemporaries were tempted to do, merely to create exotic settings for his stories. The fumbling attempts by the representatives of different civilisations to understand each other were used by him not so much to make cultural comparisons as to illustrate the fraught business of human communication on any level and in any milieu.

Thus, the visit of a wellheeled English woman to her poverty-stricken married sister in postwar Poland inhabits the same psychological terrain as a first dinner date whose participants strive desperately not to make contact with each others' knees under the table. A Japanese academic finding herself groped by a much admired English poet she has come to visit suffers agonies of embarrassment which are little different in kind from those of a man and woman whose first outing to the cinema exposes them to explicit sex scenes, an experience which

their nascent relationship. Tuohy had a penetrating eye for social mores. In his English stories he unsparingly depicted the inhabitants of enclaves of jealously-preserved gentility. Wealthy idlers and their tendency to impose on the less fortunate were anathema to him. But even here he was never merely propagandist. Snobs and county brutes could suffer their embarrassments too. Thus, the colonel's fresh-faced, horsey daughter takes up with

puts intolerable strains on

a low-life, doctrinaire lesbian; the son and brightest hope of the family returns home from travels abroad accompanied by a malodorous and hairy Balkan peasant.

Tuohy wrote three novels, all of which had a warmer critical than commercial reception. But it is in the short story that he is at his best. The Collected Stories of Frank Tuohy (1984), which summarised the best of several earlier volumes, distilled his characteristic strengths and preoccu-

John Francis Tuohy was born in Sussex, the son of a doctor. He was educated at Stowe, but a congenital heart defect (corrected by surgery in 1960) ruled him out for military service and he went straight to Cambridge where he read English and philosophy.

In the cheerless atmosphere

of postwar Britain he decided to go abroad, and in 1950, after a year, 1947-48, as a lecturer in Finland at the University of Turku, he set off for South America where he found himself a lucrative job as Professor of English language and litera-



Tuohy: feeling for the discomfort in human relationships

ture at São Paulo University. He also wrote, and his first two novels both have Brazil as their milieu.

The Animal Game, which appeared in 1957, had a young artist and her black Brazilian lover. By this time Tuohy himself had moved on from Brazil, where he had spent six years. From 1958 he spent two years teaching in Poland, on the academic staff of the

> setting for his third novel The Ice Saints (1964). In it, a well-to-do young Englishwoman makes the trip to Poland in the aftermath of the Stalinist era to tell her sister, who is married to a Pole, that their son has come into a legacy. But her notion that the money shall be used to "rescue" her nephew from what she regards as the poverty of the Polish way of life is defeated by what the reader

young people consumed by selfish sexual passion. Tuohy

rescued his hero before he, too,

His second novel, The Warm Nights of January

(1960), occupied similar sexual

terrain, with the Brazilian

background evoked with great

skill as the mise en-scène for a

tangled affair, this time be-

tween an expatriate French

Jagiellonian University of Kra-

This provided him with the

succumbed.

eventually perceives as the moral superiority of her sister and brother-in-law. This was an impressive performance in which the horrors of Polish life under communism were in no way ameliorated. Tuohy achieved a subtle shift from initial sympathy with the wellmeaning and perplexed visitor to a final recognition of her

essential shallowness. The nov-

el won Tuohy the James Tait

Black Memorial Prize.

Meanwhile, Tuohy was on the move again. From 1964 to 1967 he was a visiting professor at Waseda University in Tokyo, and he was to return to Japan as visiting professor at Tokyo's Rikkyo University from 1983 to 1989. In between these Far East sojourns he was writer-in-residence and visiting professor at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, in 1970-71, 1976 and 1980.

Tuohy published his first volume of short stories. The Admiral and the Nuns in 1962, although he had aiready won the Katherine Mansfield-Menton short story prize in 1960. short stories for some time after he had fallen silent as a

novelist. In this first volume. which employed both his Brazilian and Polish experiences, he brilliantly yet compassionately explored human lives struggling in webs of deceit and sexual folly they have woven for themselves.

It was succeeded by Fingers in the Door (1970) and Live Bait and Other Stories (1979). In Fingers in the Door Tuohy concentrated his scrutiny largely on the concerns of the English middle classes. It was generally adjudged to be less interesting than its predeces-sor volume, although it won the E. M. Forster Memorial Award. In Live Bait he widened his horizons once again, to produce a collection of insight and subtlety. Tuohy also wrote a study Portugal (1970) and a biography Years (1976), which was praised for its succinctness in an era when literary biographies were all too frequently becoming af-fairs of a thousand pages.

After his travels Tuohy settled in Somerset, at Yarlington, near Wincanton, where he continued to write short stories and book reviews. He was unmarried.

BRIGADIER WILFRED PONSONBY

Brigadier Wilfred Ponsonby. OBE, soldier and conjurer, died on March 16 aged 93. He was born in Čanada on July 10, 1905.

MEMBERSHIP of the Magic Circle has, perhaps, never been thought an asset in military circles. But Wilfred Ponsonby's expertise in this department was a great help in keeping up the spirits of the inmates of Spangenberg prisoner-of-war camp during the long dreary years of captivity.

Ponsonby was among those who were unlucky enough not to be evacuated from Dunkirk. When the Blitzkrieg began on May 10, 1940, he and his signal squadron were sent to join the 51st (Highland) Division, which was separated from the rest of the British Expeditionary Force on the right of the French line in a position to the southeast of Luxembourg.

So when the retreat to the sea began, the division and Ponsonby's signals unit had much further to go than the bulk of Lord Gort's force. It was a race they lost, arriving at St Valéry en Caux, southwest of Dieppe, in the second week of June with the Germans in hot pursuit. With the enemy commanding the heights around the town and the Navy hampered by bad weather, hopes of evacuation soon faded and the division



was compelled to surrender. From the earliest days of his captivity. Ponsonby was on the lookout for ways of escaping. Within the first 24 hours he and a fellow officer had given their captors the slip and spent several days at liberty on the French coast trying to find a boat. After being rounded up they were taken to Germany, where he made several more attempts to escape. The most successful of these was from the Obermassfeld prison hospital, where he and another friend had had themselves sent on the pretext of being ill. On that occasion they simply walked out, and they were halfway to the Swiss frontier before be-

ing recaptured. When he was not escaping. Ponsonby amused his fellow inmates with conjuring and by organising theatricals, an-

other passion of his. These activities had an inestimable effect in keeping spirits up, and at the end of the war Ponsonby was, unusually, appointed OBE for his work in

the camos. Wilfred Ponsonby was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the son of a Royal Engineers officer and a Canadian mother. From Shrewsbury School he went to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, from where he joined the newlyformed Royal Signals.

An excellent rider, he had a spell in India with a cavalry brigade in the 1930s and when war came in 1940 found himself in command of a signals squadron. He was lucky enough not to have to spend the entire war in captivity. Never robust in appearance, he managed to convince his captors that he was suffering from tuberculosis, and in 1943 he was repatriated via

Forbidden by the repatriation rules to return to a combat unit, he spent the rest of the war on the staff, at first on communications for the Normandy invasion and towards the end of the war on signals for the relief of Norway, in Scottish Command. After the war, and spells in Sudan and at Catterick, he was chosen in 1949 to represent Britain in telecommunica-

tions in the Western Union

Defence Organisation, which was taken over by Eisenhower when Nato was formed. At the end of this career he returned to the pan-European sphere as chairman of the European Military Communications Co-ordination Committee, retiring from the Army in 1957.

He next worked for two years as technical staff officer to the Ministry of Supply, where he was involved in monitoring the progess of the first Soviet Sputniks. Retiring finally in 1959, he was able to devote more time to his conjuring - though while still in the Army he had done a show for BBC television.

Settling in Yorkshire, he became senior steward of Catterick racecourse, and was a keen member of the Leyburn amateur dramatic society. In 1969 he participated in a BBC film about military life from 1916 to 1926, entitled Days of Hope. The film, directed by Ken Loach, traced the lives of two brothers, one of whom volunteered while the other became a conscientious objector. Ponsonby played a recruit-

ing officer. His first wife, Chris, died in 1974 after a 19-year battle against multiple sclerosis. In 1976 he married an old friend, Pat Taylor. He is survived by her and by three sons and by three daughters from his first marriage.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SIR ANGUS PATON



English protagonist working

in São Paulo where he be-

comes involved in a relation-

beautiful, but corrupt. Brazil-

ian girl. In a study of moneyed

ship with a wealthy and

Sir Angus Paton, CMG, FRS, civil engineer, died in St Helier, Jersey. on April 7 aged 93. He was born on May 10, 1905.

ONE of the very few civil engineers ever to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, Angus Paton was, as senior partner of Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, responsible for the design and building of some of the world's largest hydroelectric and irrigation projects. massive Owen Falls hydroelectric scheme in Uganda, whose construction took from 1947 to 1954, and the Kariba hydroelectric scheme in Zimbabwe

The building of the mighty Kariba Dam, which created a 20,000 square mile lake on the borders of Zambia and Rhodesia, occupied most of Paton's waking hours in the years 1955 to 1960 when it was under construction. He always regarded it as the highlight of

(then Rhodesia).

his career. The peculiarities of the terrain, which was subject to subsidence and shifting, and the seasonal floods on the Zambesi River made it a particularly challenging project. When completed, the dam, a double curvature mass concrete arch, was 420ft high and 2,034ft long at its crest, with a maximum thickness of 80ft. Its six flood gates can pass 9,400 cubic metres of water per second and the associated power station gener-

ates 666 megawatts. But Paton was used to challenges not only of the technical sort, but from the often volatile political situations in many of the locations in which he worked. For example, while working on the colossal Indus Basin project on the borders of India and Pakistan in the 1960s he found work continually interrupted by exchanges of fire between the combatants in a war between the two countries which was raging in the

Thomas Angus Lyali Paton was born in Jersey, spent some of his childhood in France and was educated at

attacked. I directed Major-General Kempt,

who commanded in the trenches on that

afternoon, to attack La Picurina by storm after

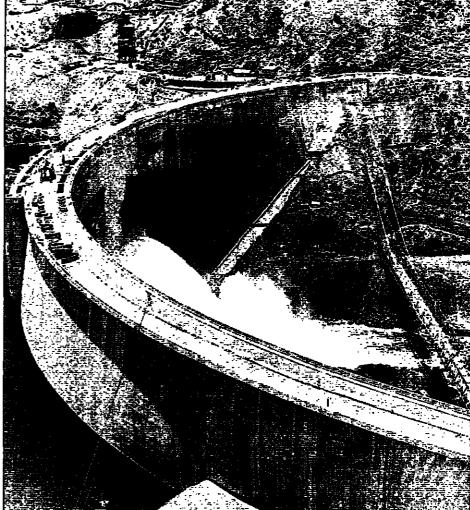
it was dark that night, which service he effected in the most judicious and gallant

The attack was made by five hundred men

of the 3d division, formed into three detachments; the right under the command of

Major Shaw, of the 74th: the centre under the

manner.



The Kariba Dam on the Zambesi River nearing completion in December 1959

Cheltenham College and University College London, where he took a degree in civil engineering. In 1925 he joined as a pupil Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, the firm of consulting engineers which had been founded by his uncle. After gaining experience in Britain. Canada. Burma and Turkey on harbour works, hydroelectric schemes and industrial development schemes, he was

taken into partnership in 1938.

He became senior partner in

1955. By the time he came to be involved in the vast Third World irrigation schemes of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s Paton had already built the Guinness brewery at Park Royal, London, in 1934; trading estates in Wales and Cumbria: a hydroelectric scheme in Scotland; a steelworks in Turkey; a harbour in Syria; and, during the war, underground aircraft assembly plants, as well as supervising the building of the Mul-

berry Harbours. From 1947 the Sir Alexander Gibb partnership was involved in the construction of the Owen Fails dam scheme to control the White Nile below Lake Victoria and to provide long-term storage in the lake itself. Nearly 100ft high and 2,739ft long, the dam contains six sluice gates, which can pass 1,350 cubic metres per second and the power station turbines generate 180 mega-

From 1955, having succeed-

ed to the senior partnership of the firm on the sudden death of Alexander Gibb's son Alastair, Paton and Gibb were involved, in partnership with a French dam designer, on their magnum opus, the Kariba Dam. The immense reputation that they gained from this led to their being called in by the World Bank as consultants to the Indus project. which was designed to distribute the flows of the river and its tributaries in accordance with the Indus Water Treaty which had been signed by India and Pakistan. This involved the construction of two large earth dams with power generation capacity of 2.100 megawatts and 800 megawatts respectively, as well as six river barrages controlling some 400 miles of canals.

Paton retired from Alexander Gibb in 1977 but remained in close working touch as

senior consultant until 1984. The firm (now simply Gibb) continued to be associated with both the Owen Falls and Kariba schemes, inspecting, refurbishing and uprating both projects. Gibb is currentinvolved in increasing the Kariba's generating capacity to 750 megawatts. In 1978 it also carried out a feasibility study for a second, 60 megawatt, power station at Owen

es

Falls Outside the firm Paton was much involved in the affairs of the civil engineering professsion. He was President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1970-71, and was a founding fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering which, in 1992, became the Royal Academy of Engineering. In 1986 he made an endowment to the academy which provides for an annual Sir Angus Paton Bursary for research students in engineering.

Paton was appointed CMG in 1960 and knighted in 1973. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1969.

He married, in 1932, Eleanor Joan Delmé Murray. She died in 1964 and he is survived by their two sons and two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

DO THE BIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
SOLVERA FLC
(IV ADMINISTRATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HERREY GIVEN that a
meeting of creditors in the above
hatter is to be hald at the offices
of Begbies Traynor, 6 Brymond
Bulking, Gray's Bus, London,
WCIR SEP on 29 April 1999 at
11.30am to consider say proposals

11.30am to consider my proposes under Section 23(1) of the Inso vency Act 1986 and to consider es tablishing a creditors' committee

vency Act 1986 and to consider estabhishing a creditions' committee
personant to Section 26 of the Insolvency Act 1986, Any member of
the company who requires a copy
of the Administrator's proposals
may write to the Administrator's
office. C/O Segities Trayence, Elliot
House, 155 Deanegate, Manchester, M3 3EP. A penny form should
be completed and returned to me
by the date of the meeting, if you
cammer around the meeting and
wish to be represented. In order to
be entitled in worten at the meeting
you must give to me, not inter than
12.00 loops on the business day
before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of you claim.
R Robinson, Joint Administrator.
12 April 1999.

CHARLES G MITCHELL

(SCOTLAND) (BOTH FORMERLY TRADING A MITCHELLS SELF DRIVE)

(ENGLAND)
(ALL DI MEMBERS VOLUNTARY

CRIGARIO)
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(ALL IR MEMBERS VICINTARY)
We, Graham Bitchie and John
Charles Jeffuy Redman, of Ten
George Struct, Ethsburgh SH2 202
MERERY GIVE NOTICE that on 2
Members GIVE NOTICE that on 3
Moving of say claim against the creditors of each Company are required to send full details, in writing, of any claim against the Company to Genhous Bitchie, Ten George Street, Ethinburgh SH2 202
by 31 May 1999. And that there will be no further distribution to the loans Liquidator intend to make a final return to creditors who have substituted the creditors. The final strum to creditors will be usefur the struct to reditors will be made without regard to the claim of any parson in respect of a debt not already proved. The joint Liquidators have been appointed for the purpose of a solvent restructuring of the Companies and all lancows creditions of the Companies have been or will be paid in full, but it may persons consider they have claims against any Company they should send in full details forthwith.
The business Row as Mitchells. Self Delve and the trading name Mitchells Self Delve which arose on 9 Kovember 1998. The continuing business operations are unaffected by the above withouthy liquidations. Any claims against Mitchells Self Delve which arose were to my which otherwise rabus

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perb value, 01962 772252.	Administrative Receiver(s): Euro
	Hocking & David Herry Cilbert
WINTER SPORTS	Administrative Receiver(s): Euro Salas Finance pilc. Baymond Hocking & David Herry Gilbert' join: Administrative Receivers (office holder holds: 2322/01 & 2376/01). Address & Bahar Street London WIM LDA
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Free lift pass.	AND IN THE MAITTEL OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
	NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 7th April 1999
Ski Equipé	Petition was on 7th April 1999 presented to Her Majesty's High
9 161 449 6616	presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for (a) the mast- tioning by the Court of a Scheme
السيد	of Arrangement considered at a meeting of the holders of the Com-
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PM 0171 731 1733.	l sa ha kawal kafara ika Combuls
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giant, professional flet shar- g service (0171) 464 4133	26th April 1999.
	said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the
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NOUNCEMENTS

person of by Counsel for that persons.
A COPY of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermediament solicitons on persons of a regulated charge for the same.
Dated the 15th day of April 1999 NORTON ECSE
Kenspaon House, P.O. Bon. 670, Camounic Street, ECSA 7AH
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Ref. CCP/EN95226
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N.B. This notice is a convented we-

Self-time for the Company
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yesterday's edition of The Times.
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ON THIS DAY SIEGE OF BADAJOZ

WAR DEPARTMENT.
DOWNING STREET, April 14, 1812
A DISPATCH, of which the following is an **April 15, 1812** extract, has been this day received at the Earl of Liverpool's Office, addressed to his **经**2000年3000 Lordship by General the Earl of Wellington.

> outwork and the body of the place, was entered on its right and left by the right and left detachments, each consisting of 200 men; half of each of which detachments protected the attack from the fort, while the others

detachment which attacked the work by the gorge had the most serious difficulties to contend with, as it was closed by not less than three rows of strong pallisades, defended by muskerry, and a place of arms for the garrison, musket proof, and loop-holed throughout. When the attack upon the salient angle, however, succeeded, the whole got into the work.

The enemy's garrison in the outwork consisted of 250 men, with 7 pieces of artillery, under the command of Colonel Gaspard Thiery, of the Etat Major of the Army of the South; but very few, if any, escaped. The Colonel, three other Officers, and 86 men, have been taken prisoners, and the remainder were either killed by the fire of our troops, or drowned in the inundation of the river Rivellas. The enemy made a sortie from the ravelin, called St Roque, either with a view to recover La Picurina, or to protect the retreat of the garrison; but they were immediately driven in by the detachments stationed in the communication, to protect the attack.

Maior-General Kernot mentions in high terms, in his report, the cool and persevering gallantry of the officers and troops; of which, indeed, the strength of the work which they carried, affords the best proof.

detachment of 100 men, under the command of the Hon. Captain Powys. of the 83rd regiment, who escaladed the work at the

dated Camp before Badajoz, March 27, 1812: The siege and capture of Badajoz in The operations of the siege of Badajoz have the Peninsular War (1809 -14) led. in continued since I addressed you on the 20th, notwithstanding the badness of the weather. July, to Wellington's victory at till the 25th instant. On that day we opened Salamanca — one which finally ended our fire from 28 pieces of ordnance in six French domination of Spain. batteries, in the first parallel, two of which were intended to fire upon the outwork called La Picurina, and the other four to enfilade or destroy the defences of the fort on the side regiment. The communication between the

attacked the work in its gorge.
It was first entered, however, by the centre

We thus established ourselves in La

THE TIMES TODAY

Bombs hit refugee convoy

■ Nato began an urgent investigation last night after its bombers were accused of hitting a convoy of Albanian refugees, killing 75 people.

Nato admitted that it had attacked the road where the refugees were supposed to be travelling, but insisted it had targeted military vehicles. It promised careful analysis of its cockpit video of Reports, pages 1, 13-16 its attack...

Blair's daughter in mid-air drama

■ Tony Blair's 11-year-old daughter Kathryn was one of the 235 passengers aboard a jumbo jet that hit violent turbulence at 33,000 feet. As the plane fell for 30 seconds on the approach to Changi in Singapore, passengers were sent flying across the cabin. One person was smashed through the ceiling of the cabin by the force of the turbulence....Page 1, 3

Airbag alarm

Car manufacturers were last night under pressure to warn motorists of the potential dangers of airbags after the findings of an inquest into the death of a middle-....Page 2 aged woman...

Guildford murder A 17-year-old girl murdered dur-

ing a birthday celebration in Guildford on Monday night was a top student at the £15,000 a year Millfield School in Somerset. police said... Purists pan pedalo

The graceful art of punting down

the Cherwell is under threat from a new breed of pedalo, identical in shape to a punt, but lacking the Police recruiting push

Police must recruit an extra 8,000 black and Asian officers within the next ten years and make forces represent their communities. says Jack Straw......Page 6

British pride retained The sense of being British is alive

and well, and has not been damaged by the creation of Scottish and Welsh assemblies, according to a new poli..... Page 7 **New Pinochet row**

Supporters and opponents of General Augusto Pinochet were locked in a row over new charges sent by Spain to Britain to bolster

Not-so-cool Britannia David Bailey, the photographer and epitome of 1960s cool, poured a bucket of icy water on the idea of "Cool Britannia"..... Page 9

Bees carry GM crops

The government is to review guidelines on the isolation of genetically modified crops after a study found that bees could carry pollen four kilometres from test ..Page 10

Historic train returns

The Flying Scotsman, the first train to travel at more than 100mph, will return to the railways this summer after a £1 million restoration....Page 11

Starr rejects his job

Kenneth Starr, President Clinton's tormentor, said that there should be no more independentPage 17 prosecutors...

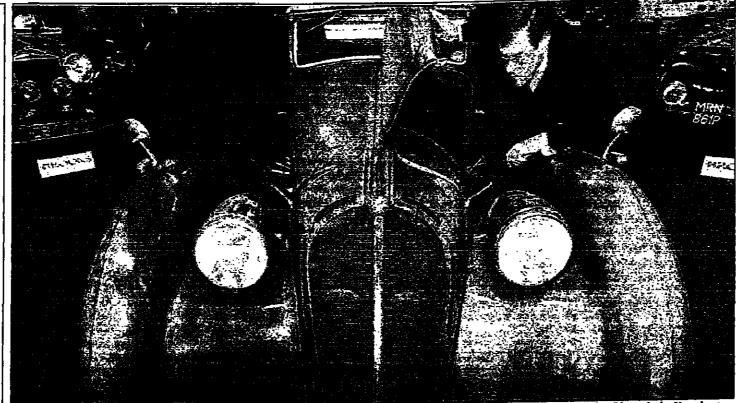
Asia safety fears

Pakistan's successful test-firing of its Ghauri-II missile, in response to a similar test by India last Sunday, has raised fears in China and elsewhere around the Pacific Rim of a deterioration of securit-.......... Page 18 yin South Asia

Anwar starts jail term Anwar Ibrahim started a six-year jail term as Malaysia's political drama reached a climax cementing the power of his arch-enemy. Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamthe extradition case..........Page 8 ad, the Prime Minister....Page 19

Heave-ho, it's an elephant to go

■ A lot of heave-ho, shouting and tranquillisers is the answer to the debate over what to do with too many elephants, according to a Zimbabwean game expert. Instead of mowing them down in culls when overpopulation threatens to destroy their environment, Clem Coetsee knocks them out, loads them on to a pantechnicon and takes them wherever you want.....Page 18



An American paid £579,000 for this 1932 Alfa Romeo 8C-2300 Cabriolet last night as Brooks auctioned 57 cars at the Olympia in Kensington

House move: Halifax, Britain's largest mortgage lender, is rationalising its high street presence and selling more than a third of its estate agency outlets......Page 27 Dealings: DaimlerChrysler, the

US-German car giant, is being investigated by EU officials over Mercedes sales policies......Pages 27, 28 Net sales: Bernard Arnault, the French luxury goods billionaire, has bought a 20 per cent stake in an as yet tiny Internet auctioneer of

fine art...Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 index touched a new all-time high again before falling back to 6493, a loss of 19 points on the day. The pound was up slightly against the dollar at \$1.6176 while the euro finished the day at 66.83p...

Goff: Nick Faldo was given his

clearest warning yet that he needs to improve his form dramatically if he is to claim a place in the Europe Ryder Cup team.... Page 45 Football: Michael Owen's injured harnstring will take him out of England's next two European championship qualifying games... Page 52 Cricket: Paul Prichard, the Essex opening batsman, fell nine runs short of making the first century of the county championship as his side was bowled out for 252 by Leicestershire....

..... Pages 46-47 Athletics: Three years ago, a doctor told Elana Meyer that she would be lucky to run another marathon. Recovered from an Achilles tendon injury, the South African is the wornan to beat on SundayPage 49

Cinema 1: Tony Harrison is pursuing his mission to bring the poetic muse into every corner of life in his new movie, Prometheus; but does poetry work on film?.....Page 36 Cinema 2: All of the week's new movies reviewed, including a sumptuous homage to the ever-popular Oscar Wilde in An Ideal Husband. and the controversial black cornedy, Happiness......Page 37 Back to Beethoven: The pianist Alfred Brendel has recorded all the Beethoven piano concertos for the

fourth and - he says - last time. Why does he do it?.....Page 38 Ever optimistic: The National Theatre unveils its version of Bernstein's musical Candide, with Voltaire's sardonic comedy and wry outrage well to the fore...

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

MEDIA

The editors with

by a newspaper

managing director

■ EDUCATION

How a website is

whom I have worked,

encouraging children to

of their favourite authors

write by putting them

in touch with some

swanger's disease and the Mardi

Gra bomber; multiple sclerosis: power-napping... Hurrah for 30: At last, a television show has treated reaching 30 as an achievement rather than the end of ..Page 21 Novel approach: The hand-held electronic book can carry the contents of ten novels. But it is no threat to the real thing. For a start. there's the \$500 price tag ... Page 2i

Reviews: Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi, hails a testament to the vanished world of the shtetl, a reminder of how Jews lived before the Hol-......Pages 40, 41 ocaust

Best buys: A literary week in the West Country; good value with Greek islands; a surf, sail and cycle Caribbean holiday....

Algeria's presidential election tomorrow offers an opportunity to end a seven-year civil war between the army and Islamic guerrillas that has cost more than 80,000 lives. But for that to happen, the ruling generals must permit an honest vote count and allow the winner to govern freely. Having sanctioned democratic competition, both sides are now obliged to honor the re-

The New York Times

Proview: The return of the sporting quiz They Think It's All Over (BBC1) Review: Peter Barnard is unimpressed by the BBC's shaggy Pages 50. 51 dog stories

Straw's list

The British Government is not sim. ply acting as an agent for Spain in the extradition of General Pinochet It is also pursuing him on its own account...

Down but not out

The Malaysian Prime Minister has manipulated justice to suit his repressive political ends in the sentencing of Anwar to six years in jail. But a force is emerging in Malaysia as a result of the trial that was intended to stifle its birth.....Page 23

Tomb with a view

The discovery of a Roman sarconhagus will teach modern Britons more than a few facts about the society which once colonised their country. They may also find more of those emotional links through which classical civilisation can best become real again.....Page 23

SEAN O'CALLAGHAN

Fear of a republican split should not prevent decommissioning, A split cannot be dodged, so decommissioning should not be

MAGNUS LINKLATER

If you want to understand what effect your second vote will have, and how it will translate into the number of MPs your party musters, then you may have to retire to a darkened room, with a wet towel around your brow.....Page 22

MICK HUME

The war against the Serbs is primarily about giving Mr Blair's Government an aura of moral authority and a sense of mission. It is about projecting a self-image of the ethical new Britain bestriding the world. It is a crusade.......Page 22

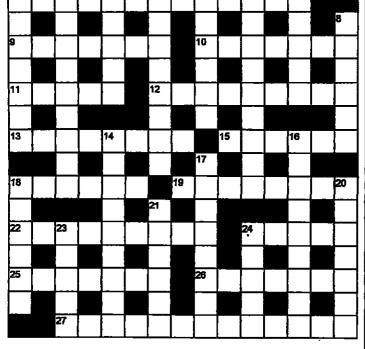
Frank Tuohy, writer; Brigadier Wilfred Ponsonby, OBE, soldier and conjuror; Sir Angus Paton.

CMG, civil engineer Page 25

Frederick Forsyth on Kosovo blunders; historic musical instuments; brain medicine: employee surveil-

lance; St George's Day Page 23

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,078



ACROSS

- 1 Made out to be important (13). 9 Agree Egyptian deity is a figment of the imagination (7). 10 Plan friendly gesture to bird (7).
- 12 Position of perfect balance one needed to cut boundary (5-4). 13 One way to get face relaxed (4-4).
- 15 Loved the return of Eliot's hero. leaving North (6). 18 Somebody often supported by
- Lord Chancellor (6). 19 Female help's attachment to male help (8). 22 Young animals eat a lot. nothing
- 24 Learner ostentatiously good in short stretch (5).

complicated (4,5).

Solution to Puzzle No 21,077

- 25 Flat accommodation here for half the usual people? (7). 26 See one university admitted to cut in old-fashioned course (7).
- 27 Say completely in old language 11 Height achieved by fighter force **DOWN**
 - Like our currency get about one million in swap (7).
 - taken drug (9).
 - 3 Unskilful writer moved over into computer studies (5). Aim to get excitement in keeper's
 - job (4-4). Cause weakness? Not even to the French (6). 6 Rash got from being out in sun
 - without hat? (3-6). 7 Fear being killed, if resistance is overcome (5). Stop supporting modest bid, be-
 - ing mean (6). 14 Butterfly is overflowing with colour (9).
 - 16 Keep on working to break into paper (9).
 - 17 Pieces of paper covering outcome of union negotiation? (8). 18 British family I caught on island.
 - a Pacific one (6). 20 Problem as area is omitted from phone book (7).
 - 21 Be encouraged to make small profit in America (4,2).
 - Keen to sing this? (5). 24 Superior sort of busybody, say (5).
 - Times Two Crossword, page 52

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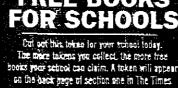
The Mac Office ther by Fax

0336 416 191

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun nses: 6.06 am Sun sets: 7.56 pm London 7.56 pm to 6.03 am Bristol 8.06 pm to 6.14 am Edinburgh 8.19 pm to 6.06 am Manchester 8.09 pm to 6.08 a





each day until Friday, April 30,

THE



☐ General: east and south-east England will have some early sunshine but it will be very cold with showery rain later. The rest of England and Waiss will start cloudier with rain, clearing to leave a mix of sunny spalls and heavy, possibly wintry showers. Northern Ireland will be cold and blustery with heavy showers and limited sunny spells. Northern and western Scotland will also be windy with heavy and at times wintry showers, but south-east Scotland should have some longer sunny breaks.

ers, but south-east Scotland should have some longer sunny breaks.

I Tonight: the brisk north-west wind will drop. Showers will die away from most inland areas of England and Wales to leave a mainly dry and cold night with a frost away from coests. There may also be some mist and fog by dawn. Scotland will also have a very cold night with showers. Northern Ireland will also have a few wintry showers.

I London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England: another cold start, then sunny until showery rain, possibly with sleet on hills, in afternoon. Moderate south-west wind. Max 10C (50F).

E Midlands, E England, W Middlands,

wind. Max 100 (50F).

E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Central N: starting dry, but very cold with rain later in morning, then surnry spells and heavy showers in afternoon, wintry over the hills. Moderate west wind, becoming north-westerly. Max 8C (46F).

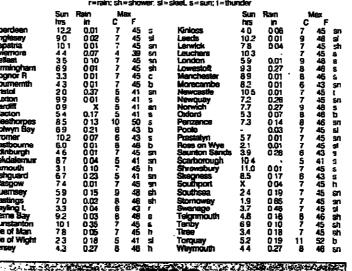
S Walson M Widels NW England.

sleet clearing to a cold and breezy after-noon with sunny spells and scattered show-ers, wintry over hills. Moderate north-wester-ly wind. Max 8C (46F).

odd shower. Moderate north-westerly wind. ☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: cold and breezy day with isolated showers. Fresh north-westerly wind. Max 8C (46F).

☐ Aberdeen, Central High Moray Firth, N Scotland, Orkney, Shelland: a penetrating wind with showers, many heavy with hair or sleet and snow on the mountains. Strong north-west wind. Max 7C (45F).

Dutooic it will become less windy on Fri-day but will remain cold with overnight frost and some wintry showers. Eastern England will have the best of any sunny spells. It will stay cold on Saturday with scattered show-



Geneva Gebratzar Helsinki Hong K Innsbruc Istanbut Jeddah Joburg L Palmas Le Tquet Lisbon Locano

Channel Islands, SW England: rain and sleet will clear to sunny spells and the

C SW Scotland, Glasgow: after a dry, chilly start, showers will move southwards, many of hail and sleet. Strong north-west wind. Max 7C (45F).

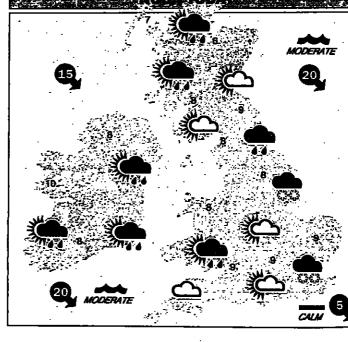
IN Ireland: cold with sunny spells and scattered showers, some wintry. Moderate north-west wind. Max 8C (46F).

I Republic of Ireland: fine and sunny then cloudy with scattered showers, perhaps with thunder. Max 10C (50F).

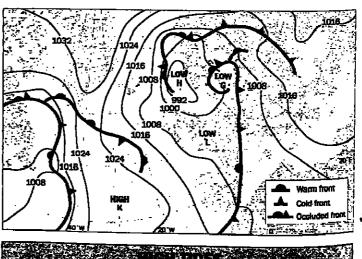
ARCUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY



59 s 48 c 54 s 73 s 48 c | 45 c | 45 c | 75 c | 73 c | 73 c | 73 c | 72 5



Changes to the chart below from noon: low L will drift north and merge with low H; low G will move east; high K will remain stationary



PM 22:53 13:20 20:51 23:29 17:47 18:39 17:24 16:07 18:37 12:36 18:49 22:40 18:35 17:18 22:33 23:14 16:49 12:02 23:33 21:57 17:42 17:35 17:44 13:58 Autormouth
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Dover
Falmouth
Greenock
Henvich
Holyhead
Hulf (Albert C 4.3 13.7 12.6 5.5 4.1 5.3 4.0 5.7 8.8 7.4 5.6 10:28 0:50 8:54 11:25 5:24 4:17 5:05 3:45 6:03 10:31 10:24 10:06 5:33 2:52 11:08 Liverpool
London Brit
Lowestoft,
Margate
Mirford Haw
Newquay
Oban
Penzance
Portland
Porsmouth
Southampt
Swansee
Tees 11:18 9:31 5:35 5:12 5:35 1:45 22:58 22:48 22:43 17:57 15:01 23:23 All times GMT.

Yesterday: highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 11C (52F); lowest day mac Loch Glascamoch, Highland, 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Althahana, Highland, 0.74in; highest sunshine: Aberdeen, 12.2 hrs.

Bordeaux Brussels Budapest B Aires Carro Cape Tri Chicago Ch'church

A fine **Pangloss**

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY APRIL 15 1999

Business • Arts • Books • Sport • Television

Optimism returns to City as FTSE touches new high

London

to beat

Sport, page 49

CSDAY APRIL 15 19

RADIO & TV

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Straw's list

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Preview: The return of the Mr. Think It's All u Review: Peter Barnant the BBC's

> By Alasdair Murray **ECONOMICS** CORRESPONDENT

CITY optimism about the health of the economy has staged an "astounding" recovery in the past few months, a new report pub-

lished yesterday claimed. The latest monthly survey of fund managers by Mer-rill Lynch and Gallup showed that more than 80 per cent of City investors anticipate an improvement in the economy over the next year compared with just 3 per cent in September.

The City's optimism is supported by a separate report from Business Strategies, the economic research group, which suggests Britain will comfortably avoid recession this year recording growth of 0.8 per cent.

It gave warning, however, that the overall picture masked sharp regional divergences. Scotland and the North East will suffer an outright decline in output while the South East will achieve a 2 per cent growth rate.

The evidence of rising confidence came as the stock market set yet another record high. The FTSE 100 touched 6,539.9 but failed to hold its gains and eventually closed down 19.5 at 6,493.6.

The Merrill Lynch survey confirms that City fund managers are increasingly bullish about the outlook for the economy, expecting economic growth of 1.1 per cent this

'Speed up reform"......32

year -- in line with the Treasury's forecast — and climbing to 2 per cent in 2000.

Fund managers remain moderate buyers of UK equities and are selling gilts. However, they are more sceptical about the high valuations of US shares and are switching to Japan and Asia Pacific in search of value.

The Japanese market has been the world's top per-former this year despite few signs of a recovery. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development vesterday added to doubts about Japan's ability to return to growth, saying the country stood on the verge of decades of stagnation.

In a report commissioned by the Japanese Government, the OECD called on policymakers to introduce comprehensive regulatory reforms to ward off the spectre of long-term economic

underperformance. US policymakers have been critical of Japan's reluctance to reform claiming that it is leaving the US to take the strain of the global growth. If the US economy latters, global growth rates

are set to head even lower. Trevor Greetham, global strategist at Merrill Lynch. argues, however, that a rebound in Japanese growth could prove more damaging to Western economies.

"Another slump in Asia would probably be just as positive for Western equities as the last one." he said.



HEN TOES

Halifax to sell off 224 estate agency branches

LENDERS FAIL TO FIND DES. RES. IN THE HIGH STREET

By Caroline Merrell AND SUSAN EMMETT

HALIFAX has put up the "for sale" sign on 224 branches of its estate agency network in a move that could threaten up to 1,500 jobs.

The cost of the disposals and subsequent rationalising of its high street network will, said the bank, be about £55 million in addition to a goodwill accounting writedown of £120 million on the branches to be sold.

Halifax yesterday said that it is confident that it would find buyers for all the agencies, representing more than a third of its 606 outlets. Countrywide Assured, the UK's biggest estate agency chain, has already expressed an interest in acquiring some of the branches. The Bradford & Bingley, the building society that acquired Black Horse agencies off Lloyds TSB last year. also indicated that it would be taking a look.

James Crosby, Halifax chief executive, said that the restructuring costs would be recouped over three years, with

HALIFAX is not the only high street lender Nationwide, the UK's biggest building society, sold its loss-making 300-branch estate agency business to Hambro Countrywide, which later became Countrywide for just £!

to scale down its involvement in estate agency. Only last year, Lloyds TSB sold off its 370-branch estate agency network for £60 million to Bradford & Bingley. Woolwich also pulled out of estate agency in 1998 by selling off its 167-branch chain to Winterthur Life for around £23 million. It had previously bought part of the chain from Prudential eight years previously for £20 million.

annual savings worth £50 million. The estate agency chain as a whole is responsible for about 10 per cent of Halifax's new mortgage business -equivalent to £1 billion a year.

The move to shed the agen-cies will leave the Halifax with 382 outlets, 150 of which would be linked in some way to a main Halifax banking branch. Mr Crosby said: "The real inspiration behind this is that it will improve introductions and cross-referrals between the two networks, so we're confident of making that back up over the

next two to three years."

built up over ten years. Regional branch networks were bought and rebranded as Halifax Property Services. Mr Crosby said its smaller outlets were the most likely to be sold. He said the board had already received expressions of interest from the agencies' management teams and from third parties. After the disposals. Halifax will remain Britain's third-largest high street estate

An integration programme at the bank is aimed at creating a single, flatter management structure by the end of The estate agency chain was

agency network.

123 banking and estate agency regional units are to be replaced by 50 Customer Marketing Areas, with one manager responsible for both busi-

in 1994. The society lost a total of £200 mil-

lion on its estate agency venture. The UK clearing banks, apart from the Lloyds TSB,

have preferred to steer entirely clear of estate

agents. Bardays, NatWest and Midland

have never been tempted in to the market.

nesses in each area. Halifax's partial exit from the market comes as one of the potential bidders, Countrywide Assured, unveiled record trading figures. The company said results for March dwarfed February's strong performance but gave warning that its surveying and conveyancing operations would be strained if high demand continued.

Countrywide surveyors achieved record levels, carry-

ing out more than 64,000 surveys in March, while the conveyancing division opened more than 4,500 new files. The estate agency arm, which comprises of 750 outlets, also recorded a record level of fees at more than £16 million, com-pared with £14 million the previous month.

Harry Hill, group manag-ing director, said: "We are go-ing to have a good market. The only problem I can think of is coping with the extra demand. Our conveyancers and surveyors could struggle to maintain their service standards."

Figures from the Halifax itself, however paint a more subdued picture. The country's largest mortgage lender said house prices rose by just 0.2 per cent in the first quarter of 1999, compared with a rise of 1 per cent in the final quarter of last year. It was the lowest quarterly rise since the third quarter of 1995. Annual house price inflation also fell to 4.4 per cent from 5.5 per cent in the final quarter of 1998.

Commentary, page 29

Daimler Chrysler faces EU dealer inquiry

By CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

DAIMLERCHRYSLER has been accused by the European Commission of illegal sales practices involving Mercedes-Benz car dealerships.

The automotive giant could face massive fines of up to 10 per cent of its turnover if the European competition watchdog prosecutes the company for attempting to seal off markets and prevent consumers from taking advantage of price differentials across borders.

The EU has issued a formal warning to DaimlerChrysler containing evidence of sales restrictions imposed on dealers in Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and Spain that "impaired the ability of dealers to sell to people residing outside of their territory".

The inquiry concerns events in the ten years to 1996. DaimlerChrysler said that it was cooperating with the investiga-

According to Stefan Rating. a spokesman for the Commission, the restrictions came in the form of formal prohibitions to sell abroad. used to be a lively cross-border trade. In Spain, some Mercedes dealers sold half their cars abroad." Further pressure to scrap

the "block exemption", the concession that allows car manufacturers to control the dealerships, is now likely. Mr Rating said: "The condition under which we accepted the block exemption was that individuals could buy cars where they

dence that competition within Germany in the fleet and rental car market was being ham-pered by conditions imposed on Mercedes-Benz dealers not to compete outside of their

The control exercised by auto manufacturers over dealer pricing of cars has provoked several investigations, including a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry in the UK, which is due to re-port this year. An EU survey found differences of as much as 40 per cent in the price of

The DaimlerChrysler inquiry is the second European investigation into attempts to segregate markets and manipulate prices in the auto trade.

"Ripped off", page 28

Business **Today**

Rouble trouble

Challenges for the

Committee of the second se

Federal Funds.....

LONDION MONEY 3-mth interbenk.... Liffe long gilt future (Jun)..... 5=% STERLING

The EU has also found evi-

similar cars across Europe.

After Lord Mayor's show 29 Stock Market: Breather for investors



EBRD ahead of its annual meeting Page 31

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FTSE 100	6493.6 2 12%	(- 19.5
FTSE All Share	2963.33	(-2.93 (+49.52
New York:		•
Dow Jones S&P Composite		
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NORTH SEA OIL

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BG and Shell's £617m bid wins Brazilian gas

By Carl Mortishead, International Business Editor

BG AND SHELL have won the tender for control of Latin America's largest gas distribu-tion company with a \$988 mil-lion (£617 million) bid for a majority stake in Comgas, the Saō Paulo gas utility in Brazil. The successful bid for Com-

gas, won against stiff competition from Enron. Agip and Gas Natural of Spain, gives BG a controlling interest in a vast gas network in Latin

America's Southern Cone. BG is buying a share in the gas monopoly in Sao Paulo to complement its dominant interest in Metrogas, the Buenos

Aires gas company. The two gas hubs will soon be linked via a pipeline from Argentina, through Uruguay to Brazil and, to complete the supply chain, BG is also a shareholder in a pipeline linking Brazil with Bolivia's gas reserves where BG Exploration

tor, said BG was building in Brazil what British Gas was in the UK 30 years ago.

"In Brazil's case, they have chosen to do this with a private company, rather than a

has recently made a gas discov-Stephen Brandon, BG direc-

Direct flights from Heathrow. Budapest service starts 28 May 1999. Stuttgart and Hanover flights operated in co-operation with Lufthansa. For more int

state-owned utility." BG has teamed up with

15.6 per cent interest in Com-

eas, to bid for the State of San Paulo's 52.7 per cent stake with BG funding 95 per cent of the According to Mr Brandon, Saō Paolo has an undeveloped

Window shopping: Halifax's estate agency branches have already attracted interest from Countrywide Assured and Bradford & Bingley

gas market, in part due to a gas shortage which will be remedied when the Bolivia pipeline delivers gas to the city in May. Comgas will have a 12-year monopoly over industrial customers and a 30-year sole franchise over a consumer market of 24 million people. Mr Brandon said Comgas would invest \$300 million in developing its urban network. Shell, which already owned a

Commentary, page 29

Worldwide revamp for **Burger King**

BURGER KING, the fast food chain owned by Diageo, is planning to revamp its 10,200 restaurants around the world - and says that tilting its hamburger logo is a key feature of the strategy (Paul Armstrong writes).

Burger King said that the new lopsided burn would "suggest motion and dimension" and "better reflect the company's core equities".

The group is also promising computer games for children and more efficient kitchens. A spokesman for Burger King refused to say how much the renovations would cost or when the modernisation would reach the United Kingdom.

in £2.6m art deal

Arnault online

By Fraser Nelson

BERNARD ARNAULT, chairman of LVMH, who is fighting François Pinault for control of Gucci, is to take on his arch-rival in a new arena: online auctions.

He has paid £2.64 million to become the largest shareholder in iCollector, a tiny Ofextraded company that sells antiques, fine art and other col-lectables over the Internet.

This will bring him into direct competition with M Pinault who owns Christie's, the international auction house, which is planning to launch its own on-line auction service in September this year. Richard Lamping, iCollec-

tor's chief operating officer.

said M Arnault will control a 20 per cent stake. iCollector has been trading for four years, and has been selling fine art and antiques for the

past seven months. In July last year, M Pinault paid £721 million for Christie's. Last month he gave Gueci a \$3 billion cash injection in return for a 40 per cent stake.

M Arnault, who has 34 per cent of Gucci, is now trying to mount a full \$8.5 billion takeover bid to thwart M Pinault. Commentary, page 29

LINKS

3i closer to winning bid for Electra

THE odds on venture capital ist 3i succeeding in its attempt to buy Electra Investment Trust shortenened last night as enthusiasm for Electra's independence appeared to ebb

(Robert Cole writes). Shareholders meet today to vote on a plan by Electra's board to buy back 40 per cent of the trust's shares and then wind it up over the next five years. The vote is a crucial test of opinion on the 3i bid. If the board loses the vote it will leave the path open for shareholders to accept 3i's offer.

The chances of Electra succeeding are hampered further because it needs support from 75 per cent of those voting if its buyback and wind up plan

LSO EXPANDING OUR BUSINESS

British Midland The Airline for Europe

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Management set to

buy British Fittings

BRITISH FITTINGS, the industrial components distribu-

tor, is understood to have agreed a £35.6 million manage.

ment buyout deal which could be announced as early as

today (Fraser Nelson writes). City sources believe that Michael Borlenghi, its chairman, and Brian Stanton, the

chief executive, have found backing to make a 140p-a-

share cash offer for the Birmingham-based engineering

Their offer is said to have been approved by M&G, the fund manager, and Eaglet Investment Trust, its two larg-

est institutional investors. Three weeks ago, the company

returned an ES million annual loss after taking a good-

will charge on the disposal of its high-pressure water-jet-

ting business. Its shares have been buoyed by takeover

talk for the past six weeks, with rivals Wolseley or Oliver

Ashworth named as possible bidders. The shares added

54:p to 124p in trading yesterday to hit a record high as more than half a million shares changed hands. The

stock has skipped up from a low of 68p. touched just be-

Zeneca's China venture

ZENECA AGROCHEMICALS has begun work on a \$110 mil-

lion (£68 million) herbicide manufacturing plant in China,

which will supply the Asian region once it becomes operational

in 2001. The plant, a joint venture with three Chinese partners, will make paraquat, the active ingredient in Zeneca's Gramox-

one. Sir David Barnes, deputy chairman of newly merged

AstraZeneca, will tomorrow be present at the ground-breaking

ceremony in Nantong, Jiangsu province. The plant is the largest agrochemical investment in China by a foreign company.

BMW's plans discussed

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BMW is soon to begin the transformation of its Rover Longbridge factory, starting with talks between the company and the trade un-

The German car company said it would open talks on the implementation of its investment after agree ing in principle to the aid package offered by the UK Government. BMW is expected to put up to £1.7 billion into the loss-making Longbridge, while aid from the UK, including Treasury cash, regional grants and council allowances, is likely to reach £200 million in staged payments.
Production methods

and productivity are exof the talks.

Tony Woodley, the Transport and General Workers' Union's chief negotiator for the car industry, said he expected BMW to look at outsourcing some operations to suppli-ers as it transforms Longbridge from an outdated integrated car plant to a more modern operation. "Longbridge will emerge smaller and leaner, and there will be less direct Rover workers. But that does not mean to say there will be less jobs overall."

EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Selts
Austraka S	2.63	2.45
Austria Sch	21.59	19.93
Belgum Fr	63.55	58.59
Canada \$	2.539	2.351
Cyprus Cyp E	0.9095	0.8380
Denmark Kr	11.71	10.82
Eg/pt	5.73	5.12
Finland Mikk	9.45	£70
France Fr	10.28	9.50
Germany Drz	3.090	2.848
Greece Dr	511	472
Hong Kong S	13.37	12.17
lceland	130	110
Indonesia	17584	12584
freland Pt	1,2329	1.1439
merano Pt		
Israel Shk	6.88	6.22
Italy Lira	3073	2836
Japan Yen	207.20	189.67
Malta	0.676	0.617
Netnerids Gid	3.488	3.193
New Zealand \$	3.12	2.88
Norway Kr	13.07	12.13
Portugal Esc	312.50	290.47
S Africa Rd	10.48	9.52
Spain Pta	260.44	241.65
Sweden kr	14.16	13.06
Switzerland Fr	2.554	2.336
furkey Ura	632659	590608
USA \$	1.725	1.582



Greycoat 'up for sale' as it snubs Delancey

By Carl Mortished

Greycoat, the Central London property developer, revealed a 29 per cent increase in its net worth yesterday and shrugged off a hostile bid from Delancey Estates, dismissing the 194p per share paper offer as "the wrong price" and "the wrong

Greycoat's share price gained 19p to 234½p after the property group announced that its year-end revaluation had produced a rise in net asset value from 220p to 283p.

BY RAYMOND SNODDY

MEDIA EDITOR

CITY analysts have put a val-

ue of £1.4 billion on Open...,

the digital interactive televi-

sion service, before it has even

opened its door for business.

The valuation came yester-

Martin Poole, finance direc-

Land, was "almost irrelevant" as Greycoat has put itself up for sale. Mr Poole said that Rothschild, the merchant bank, was already sending information packages to interested buyers as part of the tender process which would be com-pleted in five weeks, ahead of

"Delancey are welcome to take part in that process," he Greycoat is expecting offers

day from Investec Henderson

Crosthwaite, the firm of bro-

kers, and was made even

though the company behind

Open.... British Interactive

Broadcasting, is committed to

Mathew Horsman, media

subsidising SkyDigital receiv-

er boxes for three years.

the Delancey bid.

from major institutions, as well as large property compator, said that the offer from Denies and other investors, who lancey, a company backed by have expressed interest in the George Soros and British company's assets. A number

of potential huvers have indicated that they want Greycoat's directors to stay on to

A core attraction of Greycoat is £100 million in accumulated tax losses which should shelter a bidder from any tax liability for years to come. Mr Poole said that Greycoat had considered three options: a liquidation, a sale of the company or to double its size by taking over a rival. "The obvious candidate is Wates [the City of London property developer but even that would leave us at half the size of what the institu-

Investec puts £1.4bn value on Open...

analyst at Investec, said yester-

day that he had used conserva-

tive assumptions for the £1.4

BIB is a four company con-

sortium that plans to offer

banking, e-mail and Internet-

home shopping and home

According to Mr Poole, fund managers have no time for small-cap companies and to reach the billion-pound scale that would attract their attention would be too great a task. A liquidation, meanwhile, would attract a £30 million

stamp duty bill. Greycoat's valuation unlift includes 25p per share from development profits and a 6 per cent gain on the existing portfolio. Some 10p per share of the uplift was achieved from refurbishments of existing build-

access, all via the television screen, from later this year.

BSkyB, the satellite venture

the parent group of The Times

has a 40 per cent stake, owns

32.5 per cent of BIB as does Brit-

ish Telecom. Midland Bank

has 20 per cent of the venture

which News International,

Maxwell firm is cleared over fees

By Jon Ashworth

The accountant who was criticised for charging £1.6 million in a fruitless search for assets of the late Robert Maxwell has been cleared of wrongdoing in case which has lasting implica-

tions for the accountancy and legal professions.

Peter Phillips of the firm Buchler Phillips, receiver to Maxwell's estate, was widely criticised when it emerged that all but £40.000 of recoveries had been swallowed up in his costs. A High Court judge described the figures as "profoundly shocking".

The matter was referred to the legal official who usually investigates challenges by cli-ents to solicitors' fees. In his preliminary ruling, the official Chief Master Hurst completely vindicates Mr Phillips, saying the receivership was carried out "with a high degree of
skill and efficiency".

The ruling will stoke the debate on whether lawyers and

accountants should be paid on a contingency basis - fees paid as a percentage of recoveries — or on a time-basis. Chief Master Hurst found that of £666.000 claimed by Buchler Phillips in fees, some £659,000 was allowable -- that is 99 per cent of the fee had been fairly

Monies recovered by Buchler Phillips were in many cases claimed by other parts of the Maxwell receivership, skewing the ratio of fees to re-coveries. Chief Master Hurst said: "Had the receivers not investigated all leads, they would have been open to the se-

verest criticsm." The ruling is an embarrassment to Mr Justice Ferris, the judge who referred the matter in July 1997 saying: "I find it shameful that a receivership Tempus, page 30 | should produce this result."

and Matsushita, the Japanese

electronics group, 15 per cent. The Investec valuation is

in 1999-2000 only 25 per cent of

SkyDigital subscribers will

use Open...; this figure is expected to rise to 3.96 million at

the end of 2008-09.

ased on the assumption that

Motunn lo expane ntelecon

Phytopharm progress PHYTOPHARM, the company seeking to develop medicines

from plants, signalled that it is making progress with its development project with Pfizer. It said yesterday that it had established a South African operation to provide supplies for phase II and phase III trials for P57, derived from a desert cactus, which it is hoped could be developed into a lucrative treatment for obesity. Phase II trials to establish proof of principle will begin in the next few months. Phytopharm's shares climbed 42p to 2612p, up from 80p last August.

JP Morgan income up

JP MORGAN yesterday became the latest US securities house to flex its muscles after recovering from last year's global market turmoil. It said net income for the first quarter rose 64 per cent to \$600 million. This was in spite of a 67 per cent fall in proprietary trading revenues, which included write downs on Brazilian equity investments. Overall return on equity in the first quarter was 22 per cent, up from 13 per cent a year ago. The results followed strong profit performances from Merrill Lynch and Paine Webber earlier this week.

Pennon forecasts rise

SOUTH WEST WATER yesterday became the latest company to offer a price cut short of the regulator's demands. Pennon, its holding company, said it could cut bills by 2 per cent up to the years 2001-2002. Ian Byatt, the regulator, has called for a 15-20 per cent cut in South West's bills, which are the highest in the country. Pennon forecast it would then have to increase bills so that by 2004/2005 - the end of the next regulatory period — they would be 2.4 per cent higher than they

AIB eyes Polish bank

ALLIED IRISH BANKS, which already owns 60 per cent of Weilkopolski Bank in Poland, is close to being selected by the Polish Government as the preferred buyer of 80 per cent of per, Thomas Mulcahy, chief executive, indicated that AIB was interested in expanding in Poland, where the Government has been selling off state-owned businesses. Seperately, HSBC confirmed a price of \$178 million (£110 million) for its purchase of a 67 per cent holding in Mid-Med Bank of Malta.

Brixton exits Belgium

BRIXTON ESTATE said yesterday it had ceased operating in Belgium by selling its Belgian subsidiaries to Leasinvest SA for £41.2 million and that its property assets in Germany were being actively marketed. The divestment, which follows the sale of the company's French property in March, is the penultimate step in its strategy to pull out of Europe and focus on its core area in southeast England. The Belgian companies generated a pre-tax profit of £3.2 million in 1998 and their net assets were £43.8 million.

IT quartet for Synstar

SYNSTAR revealed yesterday that it had won four new information technology contracts worth a total of £35 million and covering periods of between three and five years. The company said it had also renewed a maintenance agreement with Telecom Italia. Synstar said it won IT contracts from GKN Westland Helicopters, Galileo. The Royal Navy and Belgian Bank KBC. In addition, it has renewed its partnership with Telecom Italia to provide maintenance to its five printer centres, which generate the telephone bills for its customers throughout Italy.

Cadbury revises sale

THE Coca-Cola Company has amended the terms of its proposal to buy Cadbury Schweppes in Australia. In an effort to win the approval of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, Cadbury Schweppes Australia (CSA) has agreed to use its Schweppes Cottee's business to provide a competitor of sufficient size to satisfy the ACCC. CSA will also take ownership of several additional brands, meaning the size of its business will not change. The companies are waiting for the ACCC to review the proposal.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

How many millions does it take to live in the lap of luxury without ever having to work again . . ?

The Sunday Times Magazine this weekend

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Solicitors to vote on future of indemnity fund

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

MORE than 75,000 solicitors have been given the chance to abandon their profession's indemnity insurance arrangements in a move which could hand Lloyd's of London brokers an extra £200 million in annual business.

The Law Society has sent ballot papers to all its members asking them to vote on whether the Solicitors' Indemnity Fund, which it operates, should be scrapped allowing solicitors to buy their own professional insurance on the

Solicitors are obliged to buy the first £1 million of their indemnity cover through the SIF. The purpose of the industry fund is to pay for the legal costs and compensation owed to members of the public who have suffered as a result of lawyers' negligence.

However, the arrangement has become deeply unpopular with many firms who com-plain that the SIFs indemnity cover costs about 30 per cent more than cover bought from insurers. Opposition to SIF has been led by the November Meeting Group, which repre-sents 19 large City firms, and band of smaller provincial firms that call themselves the

Millennium Group. Both complain that the SIF effectively supports legal firms with bad claims records and they resent having to subsidise the fund — which is suffering from a £400 million shortfall arising from the conveyancing boom of the late 1980s and 1990s — with an annual average subsidy of £5,300.

Michael Dalton, a sole practitioner, is challenging the SIF in the High Court on the grounds that it breaches European competition law. The bal-lot closes on May 6.



Car buyers being 'ripped off'

CAR and motorbike manufacturers are ripping off British consumers, an all-party committee of MPs was told yesterday (Robert Lea writes).

The Trade and Industry Select Committee, which is looking into so-called "parallel imports" was told that consumers could pay up to £8,000, or 30 per cent less for a car from an independent trader than they would from an official

Representatives of the British Independent Motor Trade Association and the Association of Parallel Importers (which represents motorcycle dealers) told the committee, of the effect of the "grey market". in which branded goods are through "unofficial channels". The committee is investigating trading, trademark and competition issues.

dependent trader is likely to sell a new Alfa Romeo 146 TI for 30 per cent less than the

£17.000 price tag at a main dealer. On the much cheaper Ford Ka 2. officially retailing at £8.845, the difference is Its figures show that an inabout 21 per cent. It was claimed that, at the top of the market, consumers could buy a 1999 Porsche 911 Carrera for

MAKE/MODEL	RETAIL PRICE	BIMTA PRICE	SAVING
Porselie 911 Carrera Tiptronic	£67,950	£59,995 .	12%
Mercedes Benz E300 Elegance	£34,765	£29,995	14%
BMW 328 1A SE	£29,140	£24,995 ·	
Chrysler Voyager 3,3	£23.545	£19,995	14% .
MGF WC	£20,395	£17,995	15%
Alfa Romeo 346 TI	£17,076	£11,995	30%
VW_Golf GT TDI	£16.495	£14.995	
Fiat Punto Cabriolet	£15.309	£11,995	12%
Ford KA 2 Source: Britis! Independent Motor	£8.845	SE DOE	22%

£60,000 from an independent against nearly £68,000 from a Porsche franchise.

Speaking ahead of the committee hearing Richard Moore of BIMTA said: "If the Government truly has the interests of consumers at heart it can prove it by lifting restrictions on the number of cars allowed to be brought into the UK by independents.

Jack Glover, of the API. said: "Trademark rights were established to assure consumers about the origins of the goods they were buying not to protect suppliers and thereby big company profits. These figures clearly show how companies are ripping off the UK public, forcing them to pay artificially high prices.

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Tonight could be the night

which to slip into the meeting. The hope is that, by the end of the evening, they will have gained sufficient strength from hearing from those confident enough to proclaim their leanings publicly that they, too, will declare themselves. Yes, Business for Sterling is on a recruitment drive. The anti-euro lobby group has decided that the City is in danger of being brainwashed into believing that Britain's entry into the single currency is both inevitable and essential, when neither is the

Yet the City's own government seems disturbingly inclined to take this view. The Lord Mayor, Lord Levene of Portsoken, and Judith Mayhew, who effectively leads the City Corporation as chairman of its policy and resources committee, have made clear their euro-leanings. In the process, they have raised the hackles of those who believe that they should have remained above the battle. Miss Mayhew has been prevailed upon to re-sign her membership of Britain in Europe, but she would have been better not to have joined in

the first place. The way in which the City is governed is archaic and undemo-

After the Lord Mayor's show

past had the virtue of being com-pletely apolitical. Even if the Square Mile had ever opted for anything as radical as a com-plete overhaul of its franchise, it was unlikely that electors would be faced with ballot papers stuffed with closet communists. Nonetheless, even allowing for what may be a rather limited spread of political views, the Corporation has banished political arguments in the running of its affairs and the policy has served

the City well. But from the moment he disembarked from the golden coach to begin his year at Mansion House, Lord Levene has been using his new platform to push for Britain's entry into the euro. He has given warning that Britain's status as Europe's pre-eminent fi-nancial centre will be damaged if the country remains outside the single currency for long. In important speeches and interviews, he has referred to London as "an offshore centre" at risk of being beaten by a European superpow-er. And he obviously believes it.

But not all his constituents see it this way. Tonight Stanley Yassukovich, the deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange and hardly a little Englander, will put the alternative view. Those along-side him will include Sir John



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

Craven, another man with international perspective, formerly chairman of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell and now of Lonrho.

They will argue that it is an ero-sion of confidence in the City which poses a threat, not the euro. London, after all, is expert at dealing in any currency. But the Lord Mayor's pro-euro cru-sade risks damaging confidence in the very industry he is pledged

Same selling, different pitch

ratings. Perhaps we should not be surprised that banks and estate agencies are now to be run by the same individuals. Retail banks have turned themselves into sellers of insurance and dubious savings products and there is no reason why the salesmen should not be able to extol the advantages of

mention of the dry rot in the raft-

ers or the unsavoury neighbours. The Halifax is not pulling out of estate agency, merely trying to do it a little more efficiently. The aim is not merely to achieve cost savings but to deliver a greater level of the currently fashionable "customer focus". So meet the Customer Marketing Area. The customer marketing area managers will be responsible for all retail banking and estate agency in their areas. The CMAS will be "or-ganised and managed around." ganised and managed around customer data, demographic statistics and journey-to-work infor-mation". In short, this is a new way of the Halifax trying to sell more products. And, since the former building society is losing its share of the new mortgage market, it certainly needs to do

Buying estate agencies and sell-ing them has been one of the favourite activities of financial institutions, generally to the benefit of those estate agents who sold rather than the banks who bought. Many estate agents have been

double winners, selling their firms for generous sums and then buying them back for a fraction of the money when the banks bailed out. As the Halifax sells getting on for half the chain it painstakingly assembled in the late 1980s, there will no doubt be

some of the former owners keen

Estate agency is essentially a business for keen salesmen who know the local market. The entrepreneurial style is hard for big banks to duplicate and the advantages of trying to do so are not as clear as they might appear in the minds of business strategists. The public wariness of estate

to help out.

CMA structure may change that but shareholders should not bank on it. Instead, they should take note of the continuing success of the Co-op Bank, which continues to win business by adopting a stance that endeavours to lift it

agents has not made them a fa-vourite choice for the supply of fi-

nancial products. The Halifax's

car — or house — salesman. The Co-op Bank is also trying to be customer focused, but putting automatic telling machines into convenience stores, where people want them, may actually win more loyalty from customers than introducing a fancy new CMA structure.

BG has the power again in Brazil

Brazil is BG's kind of country.
None of this nonsense about competitive supply, demerged pipeline companies and regulators that revalue your assets. In Brazil and Argentina BG is

going back to the future. Utility rates of return and a fierce pric-ing regime are the future in the UK and probably the Continent when Europe summons up the courage to enforce liberalisation. But gas is a new power source in Brazil, which needs foreign capi-tal to build local networks and supply lines.

In return, BG is being encouraged to create the dominant power base that has been ripped apart by Ofgas in the UK. A 30-year tranchise (12 years for industrial customers) provides the payback, and pricing is pegged to inflation for five years. No above that of the second-hand

messing with rates of return, the regulator just sets the tarriff.

It did not have to be so: BG's partner, Shell, had its fingers burned in Peru, where a government fearful of being in hock to a big, bad oil company jibbed at giv-ing Shell carte blanche to control both gas supply and distribution.

It is not an unreasonable fear, but the safety feature is that BG as Comgas is not Brazil's British Gas. A foreign private monopoly can be nationalised, if necessary, or expelled. .

That risk is remote and should not fuel fears over whether BG paid too much. It paid a premium and Shell, perhaps a less brazen investor these days, is taking a noticeably small stake. But for a noticeably small stake. But for the prize of gas giant in the South-ern Cone, a premium is surely warranted.

Arnault's new line

THE mercurial Bernard Arnault has not previously exhibited much interest in the World Wide Web. In fact, he has been rather sniffy about how great brands such as his could benefit from being paraded before the hoi polloi online. But M Arnault is nothing if not flexible, so here he is acquir-ing 20 per cent of an Ofex Internet company. The motive may be typically Arnaultesque: since François Pinault has tried to queer his pitch with Gucci, M Arnault is now going into the Internet art market, and getting there before Christie's (prop. F Pin-ault). All good fun.

harm progn Eurotunnel to expand in telecoms

EUROTUNNEL, the debt-laden company that operates and maintains the rail tunnel beneath the English Channel. yesterday revealed plans to cash in on the enormously lucrative European telecoms market by expanding its un-

derwater telephone network.

The company will expand its high-capacity telecoms network through a subsidiary called Eurotunnel Telecoms. The company is currently looking to team up with a telecoms company in the US to help to sell its services around the world and yesterday admitted that the deal could involve the partner company taking a

nake in Eurotunnel Telecoms. Last year Eurotunnel Telecoms generated just £8.9 million in sales - three times more than in the previous year and made estimated profits of £3 million. However. analysts already value the company at £250 million. This is because it is quicker and easier to install cables in the Channel Tunnel than it is to lay cables on the floor of the English

iles. The decision means there

Channel. Eurotunnel's cables are also expected to last longer and be of better quality.

Jim McCafferty, an analyst at SG Securities, compared the business to the telephone networks built several years ago by British Rail and British Waterways. "I think it makes a lot of sense," he said. "I think it could be a very valuable business indeed."

Eurotunnel Telecoms will have two main operations: a commercial telecoms operator. which will provide services between London and Paris, and a provider of infrastructure to other telecoms companies.

Alain Bertrand, managing director of Eurotunnel, said: 'The Channel tunnel is already the natural choice for cross-Channel transport for passengers and freight between the UK and France. For the 21st century it will also become the natural choice for munications between continental Europe and the UK to North America."

Tempus, page 30

High-risk £300m channel at M&G on hold

GRANADA and United News M&G, the retail fund manager being bought by the Pru-dential for £1.9 billion, yester-& Media's plans for a £20 million-a-year Department of Eduday revealed just how much it has riding on the high-risk junk bond market (Gavin Luimsden writes).

Having been dogged by several years of poor performbids for the contract. But Parance and shrinking sales, M&G saved its bacon in iament was told yesterday by 1998-99 by attracting £673 mil-Charles Clarke, Education lion from Pep investors, an in-Minister, that the shortlisted crease of more than 20 per pidders will now have to take cent on the previous year. part in demonstration projects o test GCSE curriculum mod-

Nearly half of this came from 35,000 high-income seekers, who poured £300 million into the M&G High Yield Pep. By investing in risky, sub-investment grade corporate bonds M&G was able to offer investors attractive tax-free yields of up to 8.4 per cent.

The fund's success is likely to push M&G back into the top ten of Pep providers when firstquarter sales figures are known

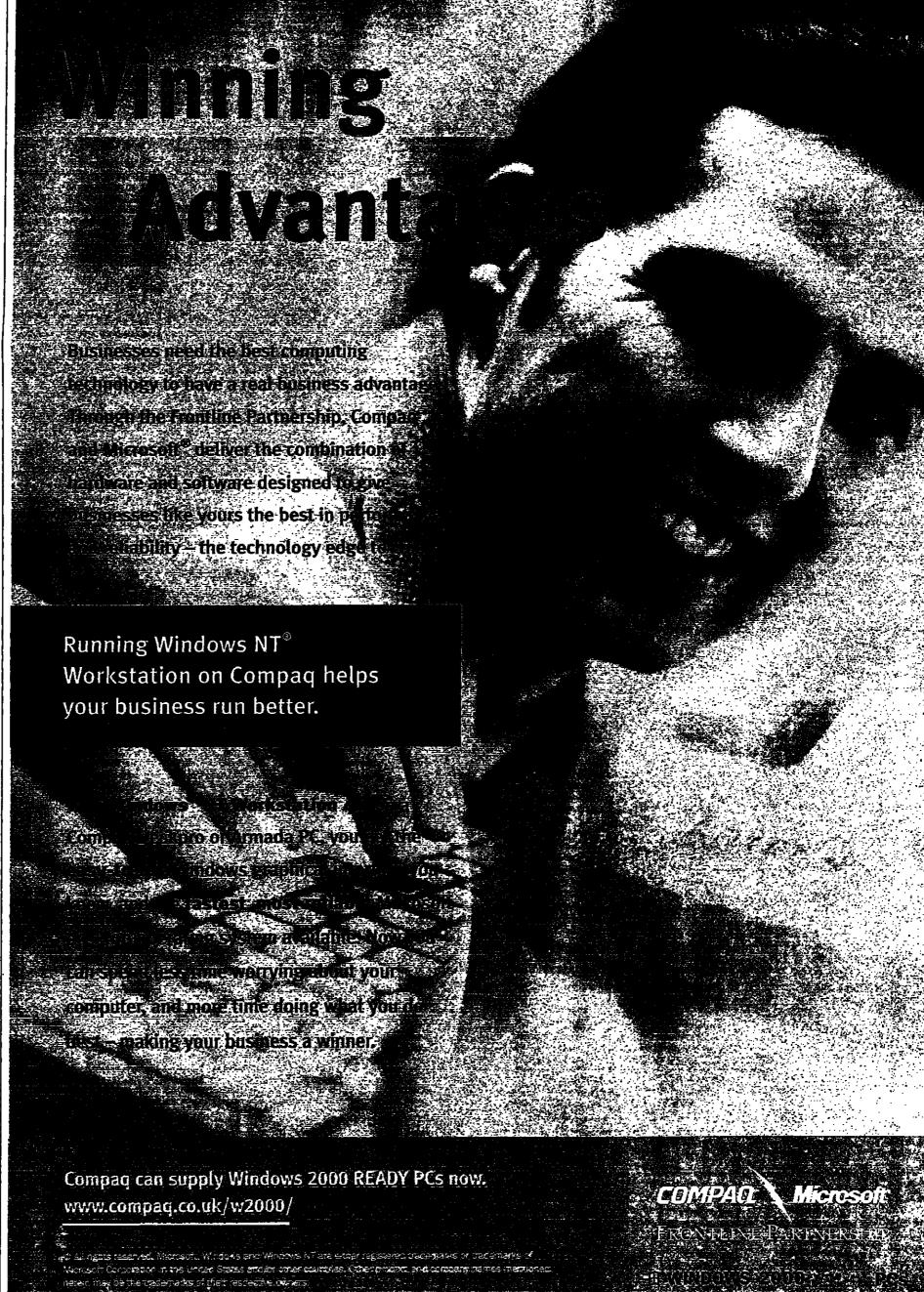
Since the start of the year investors are believed to have pumped a staggering £48 bil-lion into Peps before they were withdrawn on April 6.

Time Warner given lift by box office hit

HE box office success of You' Got Mail, the latest film roance between Meg Ryan and ym Hanks, and strong alım sales from Madonna lped Time Warner to turn ound its first-quarter permance (Adam Jones writes). The entertainment conglomate revealed pre-tax profits \$304 million (E189 million) sterday, compared with a is of \$25 million in the same

period last year. Sales rose 2 per cent to \$6.2 billion.

You've Got Mail has grossed \$241 million so far worldwide. The resurrection of Cher's career was another bonus and Warner Music group operating profits were up 10 per cent. The profit rebound was helped by an exceptional net gain of \$215 million after the termination of a video distribution agreement with MGM.







Shares drift lower as investors take a break

A SHORTAGE of corporate news and an uninspiring start on Wall Street saw the London stock market pause for a breather yesterday. After a marked fall in the morning. followed by a brief rise to a new high of 6,539.9 points early in the afternoon, the leading index eventually closed down 19.5 points at 6.493.6.

Modest profit-taking on blue chips and bargain hunting among second-liners was the order of the day, with the FTSE 250 managing a

45.1-point gain to 5.637.5. Warren Buffett, the legendary American investor, continues to intrigue the market after his admission on Monday that he is building a stake

in a large British company.

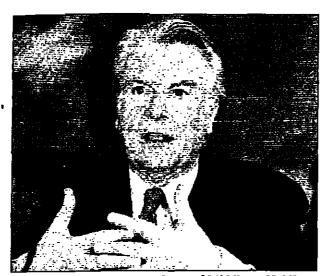
Mr Buffett is known to be keen on companies with strong consumer brands and speculation has linked him with Marks & Spencer, 144 p better at 443%p, and Cadbury Schweppes, which sweetened 1812p to 933p. Other shares linked to Buffett yesterday included British Airways. up 32 p to 520 p, and Reckitt &

Colman, 11½p better at 676p. Shares of British Steel were up 10kip to 149kip, with a hefty 33 million changing hands. The company climbed to a nine-month high, buoyed by a recent slew of positive analysts' comment and a subsequent shortage of stock. Credit Suisse First Boston reiterated its "buy" recommendation on the stock, saying it believed there was a high probability that the expected industry consolidation would go ahead.

The chemicals sector powered ahead by 4.7 per cent, providing much of the action. ICI led the way, shooting up 471-p to 6351/p, after a report that it is close to a deal to sell its materials and industrial chemicals divisions to Huntsman of the US. The warm feeling spread to Burmah Castrol, the chemicals and lubricants group, which improved 93p to El0.34 with two aggressive buyers reported in the market.

Laporte, the company that began the chemical reaction at the beginning of the week. gained 34p to 7014p on rucompany may restart. Swiss gibeen scared off after the massive 30 per cent price hike on Monday when news of discus-

Abbey National rose 29p to



Lord Owen, chairman, saw shares of Middlesex Holdings rise 59 per cent to 1.08p despite a warning on bad debts

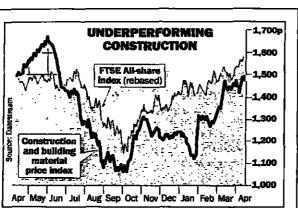
£14.09 after SG Securities advised clients to switch into the stock from NatWest, un-

changed at £15.44. There was support for BSkyB, 18p better at 559%p at-Investec Henderson Crosthwaite placed a 27p a share valuation on the company's stake in British Interactive Broadcasting and stepped

up its target price for BSkyB to

630p from 580p. Buying ahead of Monday's new business numbers helped Norwich Union gain 12p to 4564p, while Diageo advanced 19p to 6851:p after announcing a revamp of its BurgerKing chain.

Fibrenet Group, the telecoms company, advanced 184:p to 4724:p on talk that it is to announce European expansion plans later this week.



THE outlook for the building and construction sector has improved markedly amid evidence that the economy will have a soft landing and that demand for houses remains strong.

This year the sector has seen a 30 per cent price gain, and a sequence of stock upgrades. But it reing to Merrill Lynch, the US investment house. Merrill mained 28 per cent below its

and construction fared little better at 16 per cent below its nominal high, attained ten years ago.
But the institutions have

yet to share the bullishness of some analysts. Merrill said the top housebuilders such as Wimpey. unchanged at 157 p. and Beliway, up 7p at 362p, looked Assured, the estate agent, 111/2p up at 1551/2p, confirmed environment for materials

Buyers came for Boots, 27p up at 8834p, after a leading European investment bank advised clients to switch into the stock from Kingfisher, off 25%p at 865p. The house pointed out that Boots has underperformed the market by 50 per cent over the past six months. A statement from the annual meeting of Lloyds TSB, saying that profits were ahead in the first quarter of 1999, was

that the regulatory environment was turning against mega-mergers. The shares closed down 17p at £10.43. Allied Domecq moved up 18½p to 485½p after a report in The Times revealed that the company has put a for sale sign over its John Bull pub

offset by off-the-cuff remarks

from the senior executive team

franchise business A revival of bid speculation boosted London International Group 154:p to 1674:p, while St James Place advanced 5p to 285p despite denying specula-tion that Prudential is about to offer 400p a share for the finan-

cial services holding company.

David S Smith continued to look healthy, adding 10p to 133p on continued expectations of a takeover attempt. Speculation of a bid from US group Wal-Mart also lifted Safeway, the supermarket, 10p to 2611/2p.

Middlesex Holdings, a metal and financial services group where Lord Owen is chairman, managed a 59 per cent jump on huge volumes of 13.4 million after saying that Russian bad debt provisions will result in significant losses for 1998. However, the shares are still only worth 1.08p. Scoot.com, the loss-making telephone and Internet con-

sumer information service, yesterday agreed to buy Diva Solutions, an Internet and intranet development company. Scoot.com said that the terms of the deal would be disclosed when the deal had been completed. The news caused shares to rise 5p to 37%p. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Gilts were mixed amid low volumes and an absence of UK economic data. The June series of the long gilt was lip down at tional issues. Treasury 7 per cent 2002 gained 2p to £106.49. ☐ NEW YORK: US blue chips surged to fresh records in early trading. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 59.11 to 10.454.12.

MAJOR INDICES
New York (midday):
Dow Jones
1
Tokyo: Nikel Average
ſ
Hong Kong: Hang Seng, 11834 13 (-65 56)
Amsterdam:
AEX Index 543 60 (+2 61)
Sydney:
AO
Frankfurt:
DAX5182.16 (-17.02)
Singapore:
Straits
Brussels:
BEL203339.96 (+ 3.21)
Paris:
CAC-40 4349.26 (-18 15)
Zurich:
SMI index
London:
FT 30 4007 9 (+16 7)
FTSE 1006493.6 (-19.5) FTSE 250
FTSF 350
FTSE Eurolop 100 3019 32 (-16.06)
FTSE All-Share
FTSE Fixed Interest155.47 (-0.08)
FTSE Govt Sets
SEAD Volume
USS1.6176 (+ 0 0009)
Euro
Exchange index
Bank on England official close (4pm) RPI
RPDX 162.3 Feb (2.4%) Jan 1987 = 100

HECOT ISSUES

. 162.3 Feb (2.4%) Jan 1987 = 100

BG) Endowment UT	103	+	1
Br Smaller Ca's VCT (100)	95		
Br Smir Cos VCT Wits	1212		
Cairngorm Euro Restruct	111		
Cairnoom Restruct Wrts	20		
Edinburgh Inc & Val	10512		
Edinburgh Val Zero Dv Pl	1021z		
Enhanced Zero Trust	100%		
Gartmore High Income	108		
Gartmore Zero Oly PI	10812	÷	1
Luminar Warrants	255		
M Currle Cap Return	77'		
M Currie Portfollo	8114	+	
Mercury Assel Allocator	10712	+	1
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Sherry FitzGerald	147	_	3
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ı	RISES:			
ı	Slock	Close	Chng	Ctvng%
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ı	Infobank Inti	121'2	+ 22	+ 221
ı	Elec Retail Sys	95	+ 15	+ 18.7
١	Sappi		+ 58 + 18	+ 18.2 + 14.4
i	Synstar Ruberoid	103'2		+ 13.1
ı	Debenhm Twsn	105	+ 1012	+ 11.1
f	Scotia		+ 1312	+ 10.7 + 10.4
ı	Rosebys		+ 1012	+ 10.2
ı	Lon bil	1671 ₂	+ 1512	
I	Air Partner		+ 20 + 93	+ 10.0 + 9.8
ļ	VDC		+ 12	+ 9.0
ı	Greycoal	234'2	+ 19	+ 8.8
ı	Dialog Charter	147'=	+ 1112	+ 8.4 + 8.2
1	SIG		+ 1212	+ 8.2

Charter SiG Rarrico Egy	414 1641-	+ 3112	+ 82
FALLS:			
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Provident	1030	_ 65	- 5.9
Diverse Gree	1471	_ 71	_ 46
Dixons Grp Read Int Somerfield	.1471 555	- 71 - 25	- 4.6 - 4.3 - 4.2

Nagging doubts over ICI

ICI was the strongest-rising share in the FTSE 100 yesterday, courtesy of the latest suggestion that its drawn-out disposal programme is nearing a conclusion. The group is supposed to be about to sell some of its industrial chemicals and materials businesses to Huntsman, a family controlled US company.

Relief apart, does this justify the 8 per cent rise in the share price to 6351/2p? The Huntsman family has a reputation for making large charitable donations, but it is unlikely to make any in the direction of ICI's impoverished shareholders. Huntsman is known for paying smart prices for chemical businesses

at the bottom of the cycle. Contrastingly, ICI is known for paying top dollar. It paid 15 billion to Unilever two years ago in a deal that was supposed to transform

it into a specialty chemicals business. For a while it all seemed so simple, and the shares wafted up to £12.44 on the potential in perfumes and flavourings. That was before investors noticed the debt mountain and the downturn in the chemicals industry, and before ICI had the misfortune to have three big disposals blocked by US competition worries.

Even if it can squeeze El.7 billion out of Huntsman, the group's debt will remain sub-stantial at around £2.5 billion. Enough problems remain to leave cash generation looking sickly, and that threatens investment in ICI's future. Moreover, a dividend cut looks on the cards when the company finally fights its way out from under its debts.

ICI's shares have been tracking the market these past few months, but too many uncertainties remain to make them attractive.

Eurotunnel

NEWS about the growth of Eurotunnel's telecoms business is encouraging. But the numbers are still very small and it would be easy to get carried away.

Eurotunnel Telecoms, however, is significant for what it says about the company's ambitions. It shows that now the horrendous construction phase is past. Eurotunnel can build an extended business

around its core asset. Telecoms has great potential and Eurotunnel may well be able to do an Energis — albeit on a more modest scale. More interesting is Eurotunnel's desire to develop a distribution network for Europe. The Internet may be a fantastic marketing and order-laying tool. But logistics firms which transport the Internetordered goods - should be

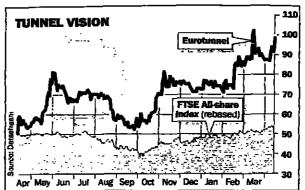
among the first to benefit

terms of concrete profitability.

Good news can only flow from the current anger of UK lorry drivers, too. If they are driven from the road altogether, or to base themselves on

the Continent, rail networks and Eurotunnel will benefit. lighted in Tempus last July. gramme will be bolstered.

from the superhighway in Since then, the value has grown 45 per cent. Depite this it remains worth buying, although more sophisticated investors may prefer to look at Eurotunnel debt. Parts trade at a fraction of par value vet Eurotunnel is slowly redeeming that debt at par. As the The attractions of the Euro-tunnel equity stock was high-broader the redemption pro-



Greycoat

GIVEN Greycoat's less than dazzling track record it would be natural to welcome the advances of any bidder. But Delancey, run by a Ritblat fils and backed by the legendary George Soros, is in no better position to enhance shareholder returns than the incumbent team at Greycoat.

Property market expertise is a devalued management skill at companies such as these. Small property companies have more serious battles convincing investors that they are big enough to be tak-en seriously, and that quoted property companies represent a satisfactory way into this asset class.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that while property has genuine attractions it is better to invest directly in bricks and mortar. Institutions are used to buying commercial property directly, but home-owning private investors may have ample expo-

DE ARRIES

1.5629-1.5654 1.4934-1.4944 6.8810-6.8840

sure already, and exposure could be better enhanced with the acquisition of a holiday home or a flat to rent.

With Delancey offering nothing but its own shares in consideration, shareholders would be swapping one unattractive share for another if they embraced

Greycoat shareholders can look forward to better pickings as its management looks for more satisfactory alternative exits. Reject the Delancey approach.

L Gardner

BRITAIN'S engineers have paid heavily for the push by major customers to cut costs and reduce the number of suppliers they deal with. But the rationalisation process is producing some winners. L Gardner is one of them.

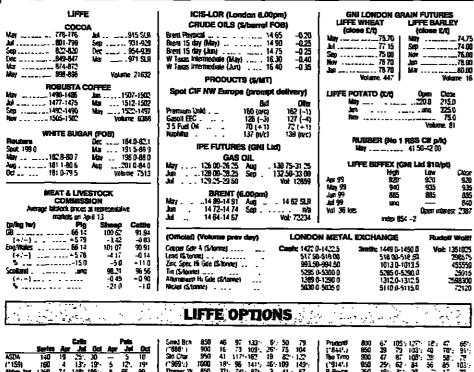
Gardner is benefiting, but it is often forced to accept lower margins in return for increased volumes. Yet while constant pressure is exerted

on its margins, the prospects for volume growth is rosy. Much of Gardner's success flows from Rolls-Royce, which is continuing to win business supplying Boeing and Airbus. The anticipated slowdown in the civil aerospace industry over the next two to four years could be grounds for concern. However, Gardner says organic growth is assured by Rolls' market strength and an expected increase in military spending on aerospace equip-

Moreover, with interest cover of 8.5 times, Gardner has scope for debt-funded acquisitions. The strength of its paper also gives it the option of asking equity investors to help fund a major purchase. Gardner shares trade on a

forward p/e ratio of 12. With shares having run from 248p to 3574p in the last six months, the price may consolidate for a period. Nevertheless, buy for the long term.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



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هكذا من الأصل

Poor Mike O'Neill, relatively speaking. His putative role as saviour of Barchays came as saviour of Barclays came to an end on day one. Insultingly, the bank's shares went up, on the ground that a management vacuum now makes it a takeover play.

Why should so much depend on one man in a strong and mature business still employing many thousands? Mr O'Neill, though doubtless terrific, was only a second-level American bank executive made special by his experience of two big bank mergers. Outsiders are in no position to judge the heart condition that led him to withdraw. We do know that far 100 much stress was to be put on one individual's shoulders for his or

the company's good. The fatuous Anglo-Saxon version of the Alexander the Great syndrome makes a chief executive responsible both for driving an organisation to increase profitable sales and cut costs and also for devising and carrying out long-term strategy. It makes no sense.

Such a burden is demanding enough in hundreds of thousands

Britain needs four top class banks

of micro businesses, whose ownermanagers work hours that would be condemned out of hand by the European Court of Human Rights as cruel and unusual punishment, let alone illegal under mundane EU directives. In a top corporation, it shows pathetic failure in

corporate governance, If only in respect to Mr O'Neill. this episode should stimulate a more imaginative debate into how top companies should be run. Barclays had a system that combined an elitist strategic chairman drawn from the best of the seven ruling families with a strongly professional, if reluctantly forelock-

tugging, executive cadre. Modern City culture is paranoid about inherited privilege, so this set-up could not survive the gross lending mistakes of the last boom. As elsewhere, however, nothing satisfactory has been put in its ing confusedly behind. Each is to adjust rapidly to the prospect of

place, as Martin Taylor, Mr O'Neill's dynamic but lonely prede-

cessor, eventually discovered. The fate of Barclays is more immediately important for the future course of the British economy. Britain developed four big banks. Each has at one time been world number one by some measure or other. Only HSBC, inheritor of Midland, the first modern bank, is provisionally established as a global bank for the next century.

Lloyds TSB is an immensely profitable and focused group, run through with a simple, understandable and effective management culture set by Sir Brian Pitman when he worked in a fine partnership with the intellectual Sir Jeremy Morse. Lloyds TSB has great strength but may lack the vision to

move into a new phase. NatWest and Barclays are puff-



vaguely copying Sir Brian, having failed in previous expansive strategies to integrate global investment banking operations. Both are highly profitable by world standards but lack direction and are sitting ducks for a takeover bid.

SEARJEANT

Their fate matters a lot for Britain. In euroland, banks are having

porate and investment banking. In France, Italy, Spain and the Benelux countries, they have come to the same conclusion. Any successful modern economy needs strong locally-committed national banks. Within the UK, Scots twigged that decades ago: other-wise independence would not even

be on the agenda. On the Conti-

nent, banks are consolidating at a

frantic pace on a national basis, to

make sure each has something ca-

a real single market, at least in cor-

able of competing on an EU scale. Britain needs to do likewise, whether or not we join in with the euro. Britain has a greater need of strong domestically controlled international banks than any of the euroland economy for a simple reason. The City of London, for all its faults, has a far greater function

than serving our own economy. It

from the West, such as the Bal-kan states. Romania and Rus-sia. So, while the bank is criti-

cised for not making a profit, it

Transition," he says, "is going

to take a lot longer than every-

body had thought." That is good news for EBRD staff, if

not necessarily for anyone else.

dustries. No leading country depends so much for growth on the financial services sector as Britain. France and Spain may be best

served by building a couple of in-ternational banks, counterbalanced by local savings banks. The UK needs all four we have, even if, like HSBC, they are not wholly London institutions. Most City investment banks and many key fund managers are now foreignowned, so the Treasury and the Department of Trade and Industry have a key duty to make discreet and firm efforts to help to establish the top banks we need.

To achieve this, neither Barclays nor NatWest should try to preserve its own top management as an end in itself. There is little reason for the two to gravitate together, any more than there was much logic in the me-too merger between

ago in response to the the creation of NatWest, and rightly struck down by competition authorities. Before appointing Mr O'Neill. however, Barclays rejected what was doubtless seen as an opportunist merger approach from Royal Bank of Scotland. It should at least

Unlike its more admired rival

agreed on a golf course 30 years

Bank of Scotland, RBS is a banking group based in Scotland rather than a Scottish bank. It has a cohesive team, both in banking and in Direct Line insurance. RBS could form a good partner in an Anglo-Scottish global bank, either for NatWest or more easily for Bar-clays, in spite of the latter's historic links with Bank of Scotland. The quadrille between NatWest and the perceivedly well-managed Abbey National may also be worth reviving, though possibly a change of parmers might save more face.

If all don their blinkers with the too-easy excuse of pursuing shareholder value, takeovers will be sprung later, in weakness or panic,

Rouble trouble for the glistening bank

where. In 1996, analysts at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) began feeding key astrological dates into its computers so that they could use celestial movements to help them to forecast fluctua-

tions in financial markets. It clearly didn't work. Last year's emerging market tur-moil forced the EBRD to triple its usual bad-debt provisions to £390 million, putting "the bank that likes to say yes - to itself" into the red for the first time since the departure of Jacques Attali, the French socialist who marked his time as president with his expensive taste in Italian marble and gold-plated door handles. Losses for 1998 totalled 6261 million (£175 million). Half of the loss was because of heavy provisions for Russia, where highprofile investments in the fin-

ancial sector went wrong. The current president of the EBRD is a far more sober figure. A former head of the German Savings Banks Association, Horst Köhler faces his first annual meeting as president of the bank this weekend and has admitted that things

business at usual," he says. Critics beg to differ. They say that it is the usual business of the EBRD recklessly lend-

ing taxpayers' money. The EBRD was set up in 1990 to finance Eastern Europe's transition from communism to the free market. It is funded by 41 countries, with most of its capital coming from the US and the European Union. To date, it has invested €13 billion in Central and Eastern Europe, making it the largest single investor in the region. Almost a quarter of that went into Russia, and a third of the Russian investments were in the banking sector, which was devastated in last

year's financial chaos. The EBRD's critics cite two of its Russian investments as fresh proof of its poor judgment. The first is Tokobank. in which the EBRD had invested £21.6 million back in 1994. "I was shocked when the EBRD invested in Tokobank," says one fund manager. "Everyone knew that they had taken all their depositors' money and built the biggest, most beautiful offices in Moscow. Most of their money went into the building, which cost some-thing like \$100 million." It is

WALL STREET

Paula Hawkins on challenges facing the hybrid EBRD ahead of this weekend's annual meeting

EBRD's London headquarters spokesman said: "Inkombank cost, but the irony is not lost on those who recall the Attali era. totally exhausted all its own capital and violated all the eco-

to disclose its situation. The

fact that other banks, includ-

ing the Bank of Ireland, had

considered investing in Toko-bank but decided against it af-

ter viewing the balance sheet

suggests a failure of due dili-

gence on the EBRD's part. This is strongly denied by Dav-

id Hexter, the deputy vice-president of its banking depart-

ment, who insists that "the due

Inkombank was the second

diligence was very thorough.

investment to go sour. The

EBRD board agreed to put €54

million in Inkombank in 1997,

but Mr Hexter decided not to

sign the loan. "I was con-

cerned over developments in

says. Despite such misgivings,

the bank decided to make a

smaller equity investment of

central bank revoked Inkom-

bank's licence. A central bank

Ten months on, the Russian

£4.1 million in early 1998.

In April 1998, Tokobank nomic rules." was put under supervision of Mr Hexter concedes that the EBRD cannot expect to get its money back on these the central bank after rumours that it was near collapse. The EBRD's supporters argue investments. "All [private] Rusthat "it can only analyse the information it is given", suggest-ing that Tokobank failed fully



Jacques Attali displayed his taste for Italian marble while EBRD president

sian banks are now more or less insolvent," he says.

The EBRD's hybrid cor tion - part development bank set up to facilitate a transition from communism to the free market and part private bank run to make a profit — puts it in an difficult situation. As Mr Hexter points out, the EBRD

had no choice but to invest in the Russian banking sector that is part of its mandate.

Although it may have made some poor decisions, it is not alone in that. Credit Suisse First Boston, the leading foreign bank in Russia, took an £800 million hit in 1998. Its exposure to Russia exceeded £2 billion, far more than the EBRD's. Dresdner Bank, Deutsche Bank, Barclays and ABN Amro all had to raise provisions for Russian exposure. The difference is that taxpayers fund the EBRD.

Its dismal performance in Russia last year is a severe blow to the bank, which had seen its standing rise since the Attali days, when it was dubbed "the glistening bank" and the "European Bank for Rip-off Deals". Its improved image was attributable in part to Jacques de Larosière, who presided over its six profitable years and made investment banking, rather than develop-

ment banking, its top priority. January 1998. It took six months for a new president to be appointed because, for a while, at least, the post was seen as the consolation prize for whoever lost the Franco-German spat over who should

head the European Central Bank. Eventually, Herr Köhler was appointed. He did not take up the post until September, so the bank had been rudderless during the worst

months of the financial crisis. Herr Köhler's arrival signalled the decline of French hegemony at the EBRD. Its vicepresident for finance, Steven Kaempfer, is Dutch and a former director of SG Warburg and managing director of Swiss Bank Corporation. Nick Stern, the chief economist, is British. The first vicepresident, Charles Frank, is an American financier, formerly with GE Capital, and Mr Hexter, another Briton, spent

nearly 20 years at Citibank. Although investment bankers have welcomed the reduction in French bureaucrats at the bank, they remain unconvinced of its investment prowess. Some accuse it of reckless lending, others of excessive bureaucracy. "The EBRD tries to act like a real bank, but it takes so long to approve anything that it tends to miss deals," says a fund manager who waited six months for the EBRD to do due diligence on a project it was to co-finance in Bulgaria. "In the end, we had

to look for someone else." There is, though, reluctance to criticise the bank openly. which suggests that it may have more influence than its detractors like to admit. "There is a knee-jerk tendency to criticise the EBRD," says Andrew Cunningham, a Merrill Lynch analyst. "It is true that if the EBRD were not there, life would go on, but you have to recognise that it has helped to prise open some of the most closed of the former

communist countries." The problem for the EBRD now is that its losses in Russia will force it to retreat from the least hospitable Eastern European countries and turn towards less risky investments to balance its books. "We have to move towards strategic portfolio management," Herr Köhler says. Cutting risk means greater investment in the sta-bler Central European nations, such as Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary, which least need EBRD help. and less investment in countries most needing a lifeline

is also criticised by local bankers in Budapest, Prague and Warsaw for stealing deals from well-capitalised foreign and local banks. Mr Cunningham argues that despite contradictions in the bank's design, it has a role. He says: "You can argue that the bank shouldn't exist, because if it is doing profitable things, it is taking business from the private sector and if it is doing unprofitable things, it isn't fulfilling its mandate. But it's more complicated than that. The EBRD is operating in a marginal area. It is doing the deals where private banks don't have the incentive to go the extra mile." artial privatisation of the bank would be one solution. Economists argue that its development bank role could easily be handled by World Bank agencies. Privatisation was mooted by the US, the EBRD's biggest shareholder, in 1996. However, the bank's top brass remain stubbornly opposed to the idea, saying that it is no longer on the agenda. "There has been no discussion of privatisation at the bank," Herr Köhler says. "It is not an important issue in this new environment of risk." Herr Köhler will have to put more convincing case at the bank's annual bash if he is to persuade the markets that the EBRD has a role. He intends to present a report on "opera-tional priorities for the medium term", which will put more focus on "the importance of institution building", which, he says, was underestimated

The EBRD's London base sparked 'glistening bank' jokes

not quite as much as the Horst Köhler, new head of the EBRD, denies that there is any pressure for its privatisation

Mini moocher

IF YOU have ever wondered why so much of this country's car industry has gone out of business or been sold to foreigners, I have a clue here. (Another is the time I tried to buy a British-made Ford; but that

is another story). I have been contacted by an American reader keen to buy the new Mini being launched by Rover next year. He has been told he cannot. Land Rovers are sold over there, but the US distributor has "no interest" in the Mini.

"Most people I have talked



Road to nowhere: Americans may find themselves

to that have been in England as tourists, military personnel, etc, would love to have one of these little cars," he says. He has written to BMW-owned Rover in Britain but received no response. I ring Rover to check on US

distribution plans for the Mini. "There's a question mark over it at this stage," they say. Over when the cars will be on sale there? "If and when."

A DOUBLE helping of trouble for Spencer Stuart. The headhunter is seeking a new chief executive for Reed Elsevier. a process that ended in farce when the leading candidate walked away. Now I hear that they are also acting for Barclays Bank and have also just had to go back to square one. Or does it just mean a double helping of fees?

Name shame

THIS time every year, as regular as the first Ceanothus blossoms, Sainsbury's Bank does something to upset Mark Rollason, a blameless civil servant from Coventry. Two years ago they mis-

card and were required to pay compensation in extra reward points. (They wrote him an apology, too. Name mis-spelt, Last year, I reported, they mis-spelt his mother's name on

her Visa card. No compensation that time. Rollason, clearly a forgiving type, is still with Sainsbury's Bank. He has just received his new cashcard. You guessed, didn't you? I ask Sainsbury's, in all seriousness, whether a bank unable

to spell its customers' names

despite repeated prompting is

a fit place for their money, but

they are refusing to comment.

Factored out 1 HEAR of ructions in the rarified world of invoice discounting, not an area usually trou-bled by loose P45s. Lloyds TSB, which last year sold its International Factors business, is now making some changes at the two other factoring companies it still owns. Alex Lawrie and Lloyds TSB Commercial Finance.

The boards of the two firms have been "integrated". Lloyds insists this does not mean the companies will be integrated or that there will be job losses. But with Alex Lawrie based at Banbury, Oxfordshire, and Lloyds Commerical Finance at Richmond in Surrey, something looks likely to give.

SIR HERMAN OUSELEY. chairman for the Commission for Racial Equality, will today address corporate Britain at the Windsor Fellowship Forum, an organisation sponsored by Andersen Consulting and Goldman Sachs, among others. "This event is completely unique," says the invitation. "the second of its kind".

Too risky? THE last time I wrote about

computer games on City screens, the contestants were at each other with chainsaws. A Lloyd's broker has launched a more peaceful alternative and attracted 250 contestants. Visit the www.fiftyfive.co.uk website of Syndicate 55 and

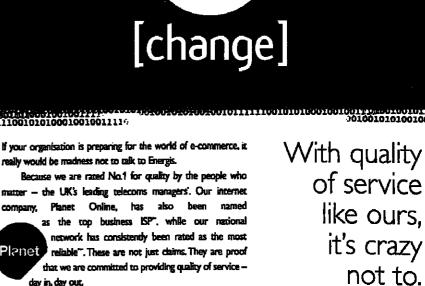
you are invited to play Virtualia, in which you invest a notional sum by underwriting against a range of risks that could befall an imaginary country. Once registration closes at the end of May, various topical disasters are sprung on this cyberland two or three times a week.

The contestants' capital is whittled away or increased as a consequence, the leaders' names being posted on the website. After two months the winner gets a case of champagne. Probably better not to invite any Lloyd's names to play, though: they may feel they have been here before.

> MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk



"The good news is I've just sold a property. The bad news is it's ours"



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By Alasdair Murray and ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

THE Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development yesterday urged Japan to speed up its efforts at structural reform if the country is to escape a period of prolonged economic stagnation and high unem-

in a damning survey of the country's efforts at regulatory reform, the OECD gave warning that Japan faces decades of weak economic performance unless it undertakes root and branch economic reform.

"Without further reform, any ecofragile and short-lived, and unem-

ployment will remain high," the re-

The warning came as new figures showed Japanese corporate bankruptdebts reaching record proportions in 1998, as a result of a spectacular series of business failures.

The OECD report, which was commissioned by the Japanese Government, said that while external shocks and cyclical factors had played a role in Japan's problems, the real blame for the country's economic malaise lay with an "outmoded regulatory and institutional framework".

The OECD claimed that if total productivity growth does not benefit signomic recovery in Japan will likely be nificantly from reforms, the potential growth of the Japanese economy

would fall to I per cent over the next decade and then decline to just 0.5 to 0.75 per cent. This would result in Japanese GDP per capita slipping from about 25 per cent above the levels in the European Union to some 20 per cent behind the EU average over the

OECD urges Japan to speed up reforms

Although Japan has taken steps to reform its economy, including reducing Government intervention in various key sectors, a sharp break with past practices was still needed if Japan is to build a recovery.

However, to date, Japan has opted for a piecemeal and incremental ap-proach to reform because it suffers from a "deeply conservative policy process that slows decision-making. courages clientelism and allows special interests to block needed

The OECD called on the Japanese Government to take a comprehensive look at all sectors of the economy and, in particular, introduce competition into the transport, energy, telecommunication and property sectors. Japan also has to improve its record for administrative accountability and

competition policy, the report said.

Debts left by Japanese corporate bankruptcies rose by 0.4 per cent to 15:18 trillion yen (£79 billion), said Teikoku Databank, a credit research firm. The bankruptcy debt was swollen by the collapse of 18 firms with lia-

among them several large non-bank financial institutions.

They included Japan Leasing Corp and NCB Mortgage Co, the respective affiliates of the failed Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan and Nippon Credit Bank. The two debt-ridden banks were put under government control last year, in an effort by Japanese regulators to get the nation's wobbly banking system back on its

The credit research firm said it expects more firms to go to the wall in coming months. Despite rock-bottom interest rates, banks seeking to shore up their capital base continue to turn away firms that want to borrow.

Tracking the broadcast of video press releases

Global media exposure can be monitored, says Chris Ayres

HEN Ford bought Kwik-Fit on Monday for El billion, television footage of Jacques Nasser, the US car company's president and Sir Tom Farmer, head of Kwik-Fit, was immediately beamed around the world by hundreds of different broadcasters.

The footage was filmed for Ford by Medialink, the US media group that special-ises in producing video and audio "press releases" for corporate clients. However, it is still difficult for companies such as Ford to track where and when such footage is shown throughout the world. That is because multinational organisations have to rely on so-called "media trackers' sitting in front of television screens all day. every day, to monitor their

global media exposure.

According to Medialink, however, this notoriously hit-and-miss method of tracking television exposure is about to be changed by its latest product, TeleTrax.

The product software develgies, the US equipment watermarks" electronically

video footage produced by Medialink for its corporate

clients. Whenever watermarked footage is broadcast, it sends out a signal that can be picked up by Medialink's receivers, or "listening posts". The receivers then send the information back to the company's headquarters via the Internet. Cli-ents can then access the data on the Net, or receive reports via e-mail. Larry Isley, intellectual propery director at Lucent,

says: The technology behind TeleTrax ensures that the encoded marker cannot be altered, removed or detected by third parties, nor will it interfere with the quality of the broadcast signal." Although watermarking has been used to track televi-

sion output in the US for some time, Meidalink's product is thought to be the first that is compatible with international television technology standards.

Laurence Moskowitz, Medialink's president and chief executive, says: "Medialink is in the process of setting up listening posts. first throughout Europe, then around the

Ford world. Our goal is to monitor vik-Fit 1,000 stations by the end of 1999 and all relevant stations before the end of 2000."

The state of the s

Tracking television exposure is incredibly important. Most large companies need to know what kind of footage is being broadcast about them to assess their public image, and decide on a mar-

keting strategy.

Companies that spend enormous amounts of cash advertising their products on television also need to track the output of broadcasters. to make sure that their commercials are being aired at the right times. It is relatively common for advertisers to have their commercials cut short by television channels, or to have them shown in the wrong slot.

Television news agencies, archive businesses, and programme-makers also need to track the output of broadcasters. After all, experts estimate that the television industry loses up to \$75 million (£46.5 million) a year through piracy. This can take a number of

forms: from television companies using ar-chive footage several times when they have paid to use it once, to

scription channels without payment. Such piracy is set to become more difficult.

□ A NEW software package will be launched this week that can carry out research on the Internet while its users create documents on e-mail, or prepare PowerPoint presenta-tions. ActiveKnowledge will be launched by Autonomy, the British technology group quoted on the Easdag stock market. The product analyses ideas in a document, then provides real-time links to relevant information in news artides. websites. e-mail messages or files saved on an inter-

☐ TEMPUS, the British advertising group, and its US partner True North Communications have won a contract worth an estimated \$750 million in billings with DaimlerChrysler, the car manufacturer. The companies will buy advertising space for a number of DaimlerChrysler's brands in Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Europe (excluding Germany). the Middle East and Africa.



Moskowitz: "Medialink is setting up listening posts'

Co-op first to offer Isas at the checkout

By Caroline Merrell, banking correspondent

CO-OPERATIVE BANK vesterday signalled a closer relationship with the Co-op supermarkets by unveiling two financial initiatives to be delivered at the stores.

The Co-op is to become the first supermarket to offer the individual savings account at the checkout - a method of distribution deemed to be too expensive for other leading supermarkets such as Sainsbury's and Marks & Spencer.

The bank is to pilot the scheme at 150 stores in Scotland. The Isa to be marketed through this method will be based on cash. Mervyn Pedcity. Co-Operative Bank chief executive, said: "Shoppers will be able to invest their spare change directly into the Isa." The bank is also planning to

Action Computer shares fall

SHARES of Action Computer Supplies, the mail order information technology group, fell by almost 9 per cent yesterday after the company unveiled a 12 per cent fall in interim pre-tax profit (Matthew Barbour writes).

Action said a sharp slump in personal computer sales and higher than expected operating costs at its newly acquired businesses were to blame for the drop in profit to £2.7 million. This was despite a 30 per cent jump in turnover to £140 million. The stock closed 1812p low-

er at 199½p.
Action has said it is in takeover talks with a foreign company thought to be seeking an expansion into

George Laplante, managing director, said the company was planning to broaden its product mix in an attempt to cut its exposure to the volatile personal computer market.

An interim dividend of 1.35p was declared (1.25p).



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roll out 350 new automatic teller machines at Co-op stores

over the next two years. Mr Pedelty estimated that having the cash machines in the supermarkets could push up sales by 2 per cent.

The cash machines are going in to stores in the North West and in Yorkshire, in places that are deemed to be cashmachine deserts." he said.

Mr Pedelty pointed out that all banking customers would soon be able to use the machines because the UK's biggest banks had joined the Link

The move to greater integration came as Co-op announced record profits of £73.6 million. up 34 per cent on the 1997 figure of £55 million.

Mr Pedelty said that the rise in profits had been achieved by increasing customers by 15 per cent to 1.8 million, and by reducing the cost/income ratio to 68 per cent from 75 per cent

previously .

Mr Pedelty said: "I am par-ticularly pleased to report the improvement in our cost/ income ratio, which is an indication of our increased

efficiency."
Mr Pedelty also revealed that the bank intended to reenter the mortgage market later this year. It withdrew from the market in the early Nineties because it repreed only a small part of its

"The time is now right, and there is a big gap in our prod-

Mr Pedelty is looking at ways of integrating financial services in to all companies that are members of the CWS co-operative group. He is chairman of a commit-

tee looking at providing financial products to customers of the CIS, the insurance company. Co-op Travelcare and several other Co-op societies. Bifu, the finance union, said

that the increased profits announced by the bank were due in part to Bifu's social partnership deal with the bank.



BAA sees growth in numbers

BY ROBERT LEA

THE advent of cheap flights to the Continent and the Republic of Ireland helped BAA to shepherd eight million more passengers through its seven airports in the past 12 months, a rise of 7.6 per cent

BAA, which operates London's three busiest airports. three airports in Scotland. as well as Southampton, said

was boosted by more competi-

that more than 40 per cent of The company said: 'This rethe increase in the year to March 31 was on scheduled flights to Europe. About a quarter of the rise was accounted for by an increase in North American traffic, which

The biggest growth market was flights to the Irish Republic, however, which were up 13 per cent year on year, al-though from a lower base.

ger volumes - increased by flects the buoyant economic performance of Ireland and the highly competitive air serv-

Over the financial year, Stansted was the big growth story with its number of passengers increasing by 35 per cent - or accounting for a fifth in increased traffic across all BAA airports. Traffic at Heathrow — which accounts for about half of BAA's passennearly 5 per cent while Gatwick, about the half the size of Heathrow, saw growth of 8

However, recent decreasing volumes saw Aberdeen airport register growth of just 0.5 per cent in the year. The company blamed a softening in busines travel related to the uncertain oil market.

Shares in BAA rose Ip yes-

Bid talks boost **Polypipe shares**

By MATTHEW BARBOUR

SHARES in Polypipe rose by almost one fifth yesterday after the diversified building materials group revealed it has entered bid talks with a mystery suitor. The company said that if made, the offer would value the company at £336 million. or 200p per share, representing a premium of 27 per cent on the closing share price before bid talks were announced.

One analyst, who did not want to be named, said: "Polypipe has traditionally had a strong position in the UK plastic pipes sector as one of the producers with the lowest costs and an extremely diverse customer base. Whereas others in the sector might sell direct to manufacturers. Polypipe has around 3,000 local accounts and has therefore been able to sustain strong margins. Whether or not a bid at this level is sufficiently tempting for shareholders is anoth-

Shares in Polypipe more than halved in value last year after stocks in the plumbing and heating sector fell out of fa-vour in the City. Since then they have risen steadily to Tuesday's closing price of 157p. Shares yesterday closed up 29p at 186p.

Gardner increase BY PAUL ARMSTRONG LGARDNER GROUP, the engineering company that supplies the aerospace and automotive industries, has report-

Acquisitions fuel

profit before tax and exceptionals to £4.1 million. The increase was fuelled by acquisitions, although there was also a rise in orders from clients such as Rolls-Royce.

ed a 62 per cent rise in interim

Analysts said that the growth prospects for some of Gardner's key markets and the increased predictability of its earnings were behind yesterday's loup increase in the share price to 358p.

ecutive, said that Gardner was benefiting from the rationalisation underway within the engineering sector. He added that Gardner could afford to make the capital investment needed to meet the cost-cutting targets of its customers.

"Our customers are looking to work with fewer suppliers."

He said Rolls-Royce was in the throes of cutting its component providers from 800 to 200 and other aerospace and automotive companies were adopting a similar strategy.

An interim dividend of 3p was declared, up from 2.7p.

Andrew Fox, deputy chief ex-Banks to 'axe one third' of branches

By Fran Littlewood

UP TO a third of the UK's high street bank branches will have shut down by 2005 as banks cash in on cut-price distribution models and millions of people switch to online banking services, a report on the industry has predicted. More than half of 200 banking executives surveyed by Deloitte Consulting. the management consulting firm, said

new channels, such as the Internet and call centres, were central to their sales and marketing strategy. As a result as many as 3,600 of the 11,000 existing branches today would be redundant. John Reeve, partner at Deloitte, said:

provision. If you look at the economics of it, it is not surprising at all." As competition hots up, with new entrants such as Egg. the savings arm of

The whole driver for this is low-cost

Prudential, snatching significant mar-ket share, the sector is being forced to look at ways of reducing costs by cut-

ting back staff and outlets. Deloitte, however, said that people should not see the demise of high street banking as a threat since there will be considerable savings for them as the cost of providing financial services falls. Mr Reeve said he expects to see the full-service bank branches phased out term by automated or "stripped down"

Andy McKechnie, head of new product development for personal banking at Lloyds Bank, said: "Customers want the Internet as a distribution channel. We have established the channel, but it is still very immature. It has got to get faster and more comprehensive before you can even say this is a substitute."

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muddle at the ICA The article scheduled to run alongside ment feels that there is "a need to encourage the column this week was to have improvement of performance". And that is been unique. It was to have been writcode for some going bust if they don't come

Robert

mix to produce a classic

ten by all three of the English ICA office-holders: the president, Chris Swinson of BDO Stoy Hayward: deputy president Dame Sheila Masters of KPMG; and vicepresident Graham Ward of PricewaterhouseCoopers. Given the considerable bulk of two of those there had been speculation that the size of photograph necessary would have meant no room for any text. In fact there is no text for another reason. Once more the council of the English institute has decided that it could not support its leadership. The key document Strategy for the 21st Century has now been delayed, possibly until the 22nd century.

It is a classic institute muddle and it demonstrates all the problems which bedevil a professional body. And it also shows how a combination of cold feet and self-interest can scupper plans. The document puts forward a strategy for dealing with members' interests. It deals with the cumbersome and confusing way that the institute deals with members through its district societies. And it deals with reform to the two groups deal-

and members in business. The crucial document was item seven on last week's council agenda. The open and public section of the meeting was the shortest on record. Any interested member would have hardly sat down before being told to leave the chamber. And

ing with general practitioners

then council debated the strategy for more unfortunately, it was Dame Sheila Masters than three hours. Lunch, a prime consideration of a council day, came very late indeed. And it was a weary body of accountants who sat down to it. Weariest of all were the three

After all, council had approved the plan in February. It had approved its implementa-tion in March. All it had to do last week was approve the paper that was to go off to members explaining the strategy. And that was where the cold feet came in. The plan was to make the district societies self-financing, free-standing and answerable to members. That, of course, is code for members funding the district societies themselves. They are funded by local efforts and a tranche from institute funds. They vary in quality, enthusiasm and achievement. The institute manage-

up to scratch and manage to finance themselves. In the past there has been little direction. District societies would complain that it was all the fault of central funding and planning if things were going wrong and exult that it was all due to their wonderful autonomy if things were going swimmingly. Something has needed to be done for years. But the institute is terrified of its mem-

bers. Whenever the institute suggests anything, members sink their teeth into the hand that feeds them. So reform had been shelved. Now the three officeholders felt strong and committed enough to go for change. Hence the document.

There is logic in it. which is why council agreed it earlier in the

year. But, as word of its contents leaked out to the rank and file, they be came furious and, in the words of one senior council member, "freaked out". A succession of council members were hauled back to their district societies to be asked how they could possibly

have agreed to the document. Most of the council members decided the safest route was to take the "it wasn't me" line. Hence the defeat for the officeholders at last week's meeting. But even

BRUCE at the eleventh-hour the officeholders should have won the day. But, who led the debate. "She does," said one council member, "have an ability to infuriate people. Several people who started the de-

At the end of the month there is a residential conference of senior district society people. It will all be spelt out again. But there will have to be a lot of emollient behaviour if the strategy is to continue. Meanwhile, morale in the institute is predictably low. The announcement that yet another troupe of consultants has arrived on the premises to decide what is to be done about the "brand" of chartered accountants has not improved things. What is needed is for someone to decide that if inaction is what members want then that is what they should have.

bate as waverers had become total oppo-

nents half an hour later."

ACCOUNTANCY

years, driven by the growing

importance of human and intel-

These assets may be invisible on many balance sheets. but they are very real neverthe-

less and need to be nurtured

carefully if they are to reach

their potential. Moreover, in

seeking to improve sustaina-

ble performance, it will often

be far better to focus on how

revenue can be increased by

better addressing customers'

needs than continually to cut

costs, long seen as the account-

Capturing value for the busi-

ness, in this world of highly in-

teractive relationships with

customers, staff, suppliers and

the wider community, now in-

volves managing the business

by reference to a wider range of financial and non-financial

measures of performance than

Furthermore, as entrepre

neurs and entrepreneurial ad-

visers, we must see technology

as a friend and enabler, as op-

posed to a threat to our tradi-

tional way of doing things. It is

creating opportunities for new

services, new means of selling

existing ones, more efficient

communications and new

In today's world, time is of

the essence. We must, there-

fore, embark on our new entre-

Michael Prior is chairman of

the Centre for Business Perform-

ance of the Institute of Char-tered Accountants in England

& Wales and of the North Re-

preneurial journey now.

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space-lean ways of working.

we used in the past.

lectual capital.

ants' obsession.

Find the entrepreneur inside Cold feet and self-interest

A wider view of the world is vital to ensuring that the profession still counts, says Michael Prior

about it and millions are doing it. Some start very young and enthusiastically, others come to it more cautiously later in life. Some, sadly, fail: others reach heights they had scarcely dreamt possible. I am, of course, talking about entrepreneurship.

HURSDAY APRIL

An entrepreneurial approach has been at the root of the accountancy profession's phenomenal growth this century. Accountancy practices have responded to clients' needs and entered new areas of business as opportunities have arisen, and accountants working in business have diversified in many directions through building on their initial training.

If we are to remain at the heart of the business community in the new millennium, it is essential that accountants, regardless of whether they are in practice or in business, whether they are operating in a global environment or a local one, or whether they are in the private or the public sector, see themselves as entrepreneurs.

We must help to create new business opportunities, adapting to the constantly changing marketplace and adding value for clients and employers. In Darwinian terms, the survival of the species will depend on it. Many see accountants as the antithesis of the entrepreneur: overcautious, riskaverse and more interested in keeping the past score than in helping to create future wealth. We must remould our image and, where necessary, change our approach so that we are recognised as balancing a healthy risk appetite with a reputation for managing risks and for offering robust, independent advice without fear or favour.

In a competitive market economy, profits are the reward for successful risktaking, and no matter how much analysis you do, you cannot escape the uncertainty of the future. When involved in business decisions, we must he seen as valued members of the team, scoring runs and making catches, rather than as armchair supporters explaining after the event how our team could have performed better.

We are not all cut out to be a Darren Gough or a Brian Lara, but our profession produces its fair share of business leaders who take risks to expand their business or their practice. We should hold these up as role models for our students and younger members and find ways of bringing the two groups together so that our leading entrepreneurs can help to inspire succeeding

The mission of the Insti-



Michael Prior says accountants need at healthy risk appetite

tute's new Centre for Business Performance is to advance thinking and practice on performance enhancement and value creation and to encourage consideration of new ideas by entrepreneurs and others. Promoting successful entrepreneurship and developing the world-class business will lie at

the heart of the centre's work. We want to build on an earlier project that confirmed that clients want their external accountants to be business advis-

ers as vivell as compliance experts. In addition, we wish to consider further how to identify the earrly-warning signals of a busine ss entering dangerous waters. In the early years of many businesses, threats to its survival and opportunities for growth all too often go hand in hand uniless there is effective cash mainagement.

When providing business advice, we raust recognise that the process of value creation and performance management has

his desk #happily and amica-

bly". As h appens to such entre-

preneurs, he had found, as the

euphemis m goes, that it is diffi-

cult working for someone else.

ess, the war of words has grown. Andersen Consulting has been making gruff and belligerent noises about how its dastardly one-time accounting twin, Arthur Andersen, has

But now Andersen may itself have a complaint about Andersen Consulting opening up a competing line of service. Rumour has it that Andersen Consulting is opening up a tax

Oueen Street sell-out beckons

THE English ICA members may be up in arms over the possible dismantling of their district societies. However, no one is sure what will happen

next north of the border. Members of the Scots ICA are about to hear that it has decided that, after 107 years in their great and grey headquarters in Queen Street, Edinburgh, they should sell it and build afresh elsewhere. A

WALL STREET

muddy site has been acquired near the Haymarket railway station and work will begin

The good news is that it is closer to the Murrayfield rugby ground. The bad news is that it will be next door to the Inland Revenue. But the clincher for Scottish members will probably be that the move will cost them nothing at all, financially that is.

Robin the rich

THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE

IT IS only a few weeks ago that Robin Cook-Hurle, as he puts it, "trousered" several million pounds by selling the Taxsoft business he founded to Sage, that giant of the accounting software business.

Taxing times THE globial spat between the two warring chunks of the He stayed on as chap in Arthur Andersen empire grows more bizarre by the day. charge, keeping contacts hap-As the d ispute grinds slowly py and expertise intact. But then last Thursday he cleared through the arbitration procstarted to dare to compete in the consulting market.

ROBERT BRUCE



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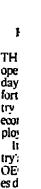
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THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE Bernstein's Candide staged at the National

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ATI UI Jeselv ati

CINEMA: As Tony Harrison's couplets hit the big screen, Geoff Brown muses on the marriage of stanzas and celluloid

Poetry in motion pictures

stance, which tenderly chroni-cled the marriage of the Eliots; o what is on the movie menu this week? Would you believe a snooty Greek god touring Yorkshire and Eastern Europe spouting rhyming cou-plets along with a wheezing ex-miner, lungs lost to coal dust and fags? "How can Olympus stay intact," the god sneers, "if poetry comes to Pon-

Not just Pontefract. In Tony Harrison's Prometheus (see review, right) modern poetry could actually be coming to a cinema near you. Harrison's other "film poems", 12 in number, have been made for the BBC and Channel 4. This verse by a film's characters. is the first shaped for the cinema: an overlong but striking piece that muses bitterly on the recent experience of the

working class and mankind's abuse of the gift of fire as the new millennium beckons. The couplets are delivered with a haughty sneer by Prometheus's voice on earth. Michael Feast: "And why, you might ask, should gods come/ into this world of Ee-by-gum? For Harrison, there is no alternative. His mission is to bring the poetic muse into every corner of life, from the theatres where plays like The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus are performed to cinema screens and the amazed mouth of Walter Sparrow's old-time miner As Tony

(Them Tories twisting and two-timing.../Tha's got me at it, bloody rhyming.). But how fruitful is cinema Harrison's as a vehicle for poetry? The published text of Prometheus miner says: includes selections from Harri-Tha's got me at son's notebooks, headed by a sweeping remark of the Italian it, bloody director Pier Paolo Pasolini: To make films is to be a poet." rhyming 9 Is James Cameron, then, the Milton of the age? I don't think so; though a broad distinction between prose and poetry can W.H. Auden's poems found a new lease of life once Stop All be useful in separating off the commercial aspirations of The Clocks was quoted in mainstream cinema from the Four Weddings and a Funer-

classroom charges (and, one dedicated to film as an art the Tarkovskys and Bergmans suspects, some cinema audiwho sculpt their images the ences) to the hitherto closed way a poet shapes words. book of English literature by Harrison's notes give only declaiming some choice stanzas in Dead Poets Society, and random consideration to marriages past, present and future in the recent Pleasantville the discovery of Wordsworth by rebetween poetry and cinema. Perhaps, in honour of Propressed teenagers trapped in a metheus, we can dig a little fur-1950s sitcom is one of the catather. Most obviously, we may lysts that changes their world. note some famous films about Going further back. John Pudney's tender salute to warpoets: Tom and Viv. for in-

Regeneration, a powerful screen adaptation of Pat Barker's novel about Siegfried Sassoon's rehabilitation after his First World War experiences: and, on a lighter note, The Barretts of Wimpole Street, charting the courtship of Elizabeth

Barrett by Robert Browning. But such films are more concerned with recalling poets' loves and lives than interacting with their words. When it comes to the latter, there seem to be three principal degrees of union. The most tangential, though the most popular with the public, is the quotation of

isting poetry as a springboard for material. Shakespeare, of course, in love or otherwise. and other verse dramatists. But there are many other examples squirrelled away in history, even in Hollywood. Gunga Din of 1939 takes its cue from Rudyard Kipling. Robert Wise's taut boxing drama of 1949. The Set-Up. uses a verse narrative by Joseph Moncure March. The White Cliffs of Dover, gruesome MGM wartime fluff, derives from Alice Duer Miller's epic doggerel.

time pilots, For Johnny, spo-ken by John Mills, added cru-

cial emotional colouring to the 1945 film The Way to the

Stars. Even now, a transmis-

sion on TV prompts letters re-

questing the poem's title. The

use of poetry gives such films

pause, allowing, in Wordsworth's words, for "emotion recollected in tranquillity". The next kind of amalgama-

tion occurs when a film uses ex-

Such films draw only on the poem's storyline. Unless one is Derek Jarman, turning Shakespeare sonnets into Angelic Conversations, the business of mixing a poem's stylistic substance with the matter of cinema is usually beyond their makers' grasp or ambition.

ut the fun only starts when poet and film-maker look under-neath any surface narrative and try fusing the art forms, perhaps mixing po-etic metres with the rhythm of film editing. Early in the century, particularly, poets themselves quickly appreciated the new medium's potential for creative expression. In America Vachel Lindsay wrote a pio-neering study. "The Art of the Moving Picture", linking film

to Egyptian hieroglyphics.

The poets who really got carried away by cinema, however, lived in France. Surrealist spirits like Robert Desnos and Philippe Soupault contrived to cinema's potential for bizarre juxtapositions, the logic

of dreams. In Britain, by contrast, film poetry led a humbler life, often tethered to the documentary and the sponsored short. Was Auden's heart truly stirred in the 1930s by writing scripts for the GPO Film Unit about coalmining and night mail trains? Still, he dutifully wrote his verse, lyrical or incantatory.

Iron maidens: daughters of the ocean do their thing in Prometheus as Tony Harrison pursues his mission to bring the poetic muse into every corner of life carefully cut to the images, matched to music composed by Britten. Later. Humphrey Jennines offered a poet's view raculous fusions of word, image and sound. In America. the emerging underground cinema of the 1940s and 1950s cy dance steps.

gave film poets a wider playground, ideal for the creation sexual psycho-dramas decked with symbols, very much shot in the first person singular. But those were and remain

films for the ghetto. Prometh-

eus hopes to reach the general

COMPETITION

audience, though timid exhibi-

tors will no doubt restrict its chances. In the light of history, Harrison's union of poetry plain. Words and images run side by side but avoid any fan-

Perhaps on reflection this is iust as well. Narrative cinema is a public art, which needs a projector, a screen and a full house to flaurish. The best of poetry needs an armchair, a reader's eyes and imagination. and a pool of silence. These are things not often available at the Odeon.

THE

Excellent Queen Bess ■ POODLE SPRINGS NEW RELEASES

ELIZABETH

PolyGram. 15, 1998 THE British costume drama gets a vigorous kick in the pants in Shekhar Kapur's bold and award-winning account of the reign of Elizabeth I. Aussie actress Cate Blanchett tackles the main role with aplomb. growing through her scenes from an uncertain young woman vanked on to the throne into a formidable creature too aware of her qualities to be governed by any man. Geof-frey Rush heads the supporting cast as Sir Francis Walsingham, man of mystery; Christopher Eccleston and Fanny Ardant also make strong impressions. Available

to rent.

■ ACCATTONE Tartan, 15, 1961 AFTER a decade as novelist. poet and scriptwriter, Pier Pao-lo Pasolini made his directorial mark with this rough-edged but powerful drama about a pimp's self-destruction in the squalid suburbs of Rome. Superficially, the style may sugism; but the jagged editing, the almost fetishistic worship of lead actor Franco Citti, and the soundtrack's blasts of Bach all point the way towards the expressive devices of the mature Pasolini films

ON VIDEO

Cate Blanchett makes a

DICK TRACY

Mosaic, 12, 1998 A PHONE call from a fellow private eye ends in gunshots. The next thing you know, Philip Marlowe (James Caan.

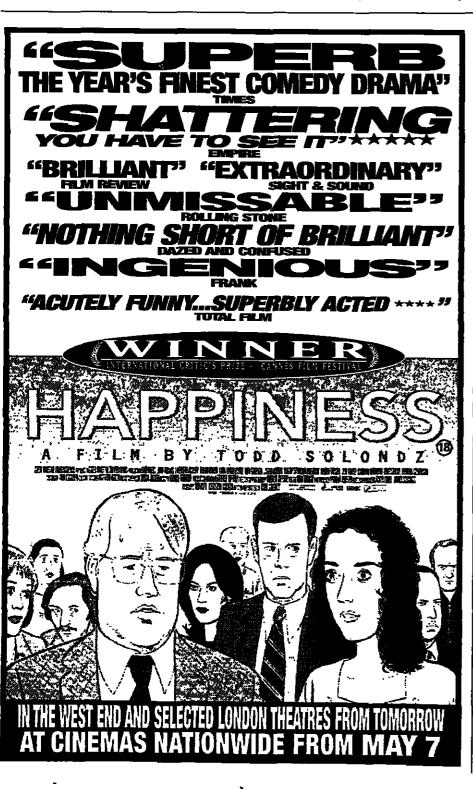
well-cast) is being arrested for obstructing justice and being "stupider than three sheep". Tom Stoppard wrote the script for this cable TV adaptation of Raymond Chandler's unfinished novel, although he never jumps over the plot's main hurdle: how can we believe that this world-weary private eye has got himself married to a billionaire's daughter? A rental release.

winning Elizabeth I

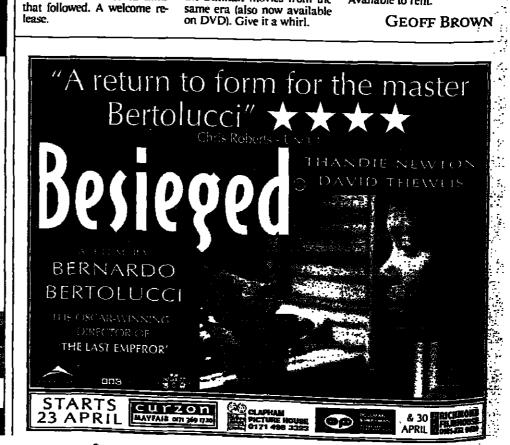
Touchstone DVD, PG, 1990 IN THE DVD format, the bold comic-strip colours of Warren Beatty's film almost burn the eyes. Danny Elfman's music and Madonna's rendition of Stephen Sondheim's songs soar out of the soundtrack; Al Pacino hits the high decibels too with his outrageous turn as Big Boy Caprice. Beatty's overly laid-back performance as detective Tracy somewhat chills the fun, although as a stylised blockbuster the film still shows more spunk and imagination than the Batman movies from the

THE SPANISH PRISONER Fox Pathé, 15, 1997

AS SOMEONE says during this teasing entertainment. "Who in the world is what they seem?" Campbell Scott's scientist, inventor of a valuable new industrial process, is a sitting duck for a con trick, and writer-director David Mamet is just the man to spring one. This is a spry Hitchcockian thriller with an impressive performance from Steve Martin as a jet-setter. and a classy turn from Rebecca Pidgeon as the Girl Friday who might, like everyone else. not be quite what she seems. Available to rem.







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An update deserving of an Oscar

NEW MOVIES: Rupert Everett plus the wisdom of

An Ideal Husband equals hit, says James Christopher

ig heritage films are what the British do best. At least, that's the view across the pond, and there's been little to obscure it recently. We have a past worth plundering, bundles of supremely good (and cheap) actors, and, just occasionally, the wit to give our costume extravaganzas a topical spin. Oliver Parker's reworking of Oscar Wilde's An Ideal Husband fulfils the brief to perfection. There has, of course, been major plastic sur-gery. Pages of delightful but superfluous twaddle have been liposuctioned. Several characters are sporting facelifts. And the heart of the play has a new comic pacemaker. His name is Rupert Everett, and he plays Oscar Wilde's alter-ego, Lord

Goring, with indecent charm. it's Everett's frivolous Goring who has to sort out the scandal that threatens to ruin his best friends. Jeremy Northam's twinkling politician, Sir Robert Chiltern, is the ideal husband with brilliant prospects. His beloved wife Gertrude (Cate Blanchett) is besot-

ted with his virtues. It's at one of their glittering parties that Julianne Moore's shameless blackmailer breezes in with dirty evidence of a state secret Northam sold to make himself a millionaire. Northam must either throw the Government behind Moore's fraudulent business scheme in Argentina, or risk losing wife, career and, possibly, freedom.

Parker's film has frothy touches of Shakespeare in Love, but the issues are sharper. For all the fun the film has at the expense of political and romantic hypocrisy, it clearly hasn't gone out of fashion since Wilde penned the play more than a hundred years ago. An Ideal Husband is everything you would expect in a contemporary potboiler: sleaze in high places and power-plays between the sexes. Passions and egos are barely repressed by starched shirts and delicately powdered cleavages. The camera rubbernecks its way around the ballrooms and drawing rooms of the rich and privileged, pan-ning over miles of silk taffeta, alighting on loaded snippets of conversation that inexorably nudge Northam's shame into

An Ideal Husband UCI Whiteleys PG, 95 mins Sumptuous homage to Wilde's ever-fashionable

Happiness Virgin Haymarket 18, 140 mins Poisonous black

comedy about "happy" New Yorkers Return to **Paradise**

Warner Village West End. 15, III mins American buddies go mad in Malaysia **Prometheus**

Notting Hill Coronet 15, 129 mins Tony Harrison's dense, awesome film-poem Actresses

ICA 15, 113 mins Stage jealousies scrutinised

Blanchett throbs and hums with righteous indignation. Northam has the priceless gift of being able to express a drastic emotional change with little more than a shift of the eyeballs. A cast of practised old hands helps to stir the pot further. Simon Russell Beale's newspaper editor creeps after Northam and the scheming Moore like an oil slick. But it's Everett's Goring, the most underestimated and humane of Wilde's gallery of wits, who steals the film. He hides his loyalties and his tolerance under airy nothings. Flashing looks of camp alarm, deadpanning lusty socialites, or glaring at himself in mirrors, he

LINKS

sday 11.05pm Norman's Film Night: Sk

contrives to seem as useless and self-centred as he is comically saintly. "To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance," he declares to his retainer (Peter Vaughan). His unexpected acts of wily generosity seem more like comic accidents than

charity aforethought.
Purists will claim that Wilde has been foully interfered with. They're right, of course. The smalltalk has been sanded down to aphorisms, slights, innuendoes, faux pas and putdowns. The romantic cornedy has been cranked up, the melodrama tightened, and there's a preposterous piece of heroic grandstanding by Northam in the House of Commons. But the film is never less than fair to the unsettling modernity of the original. Enjoy.

ilde's message of tolerance would be lost on Todd Solondz's poisonous but gripping black comedy, Happiness. It's one of the most powerful films about dismal relationships I've seen this year, and at some points it

requires a strong stomach.
Stitched loosely around the lives of three sisters, their parents and their partners, the film asks the simple question. what is happiness? The simple answer is that it's not here. The aches are familiar: loneliness, desire, alienation, a struggle to connect. How Solondz's misfits go about curing them is a hollow, mucky business that is both extremely funny and ghastly.

In his sleazy apartment, Phillip Seymour Hoffman's Billy Bunter-esque loner pants over magazines and ploughs through the phone book making obscene calls. Jane Ad-30-year-old dreamer. Joy, seems destined to be cornered by suicidally sincere and vastly ugly dates. Her beautiful older sister Helen (Lara Flynn Boyle), a successful poet and even more wildly successful in bed, is consumed by self-loathing. Middle sister Trish (Cynthia Stevenson) is so keen to advertise her perfect family that she fails to notice that her perfectly nice psychiatrist husband Bill (Dylan Baker, superb) can only find happiness by raping his 11-year-old son's best friends. This is the



it's also the most nakedly revealing, based as it is around Bill's genuinely loving relationship with his son.

These urban scenarios impose on each other like bad breath. There are pauses that would make Harold Pinter squirm with unease, and more incidental twists than an oldfashioned whodunit. Most unnerving is the eerie sense of calm. Solondz's film isn't as savagely manipulative as Neil Labute's withering sex-comedy Your Friends & Neighbors. but the bite is equally deep. The only weakness is that Solondz's editing lacks a killer instinct. The result is that the film is overlong and slightly portentous. The flip side is a genuine sense of messy lives and ugly imponderables. Equally grim, but utterly hu-

mourless, is Joseph Ruben's crisis of conscience thriller Return to Paradise, based on the 1989 French film *Force Ma*jeure. The opening 15 minutes is an exhilarating medley of snapshot scenes showing three American buddies playing fast and loose with prosti-tutes and drugs on a holiday in Malaysia. Vince Vaughn and David Conrad drop their slab of hashish in the trash, wave goodbye to Joaquin Phoenix, and head back to New York. Two years later, Vaughn, a limousine driver, and Conrad, a structural engineer, are doorstepped by a law-yer (Anne Heche) and told that Phoenix has been rotting in Penang jail, charged with possession of the drugs that they dumped. Unless the boys re turn to do their share of the punishment - three years apiece in prison, or six if only one comes back - then Phoenix will hang the next week.

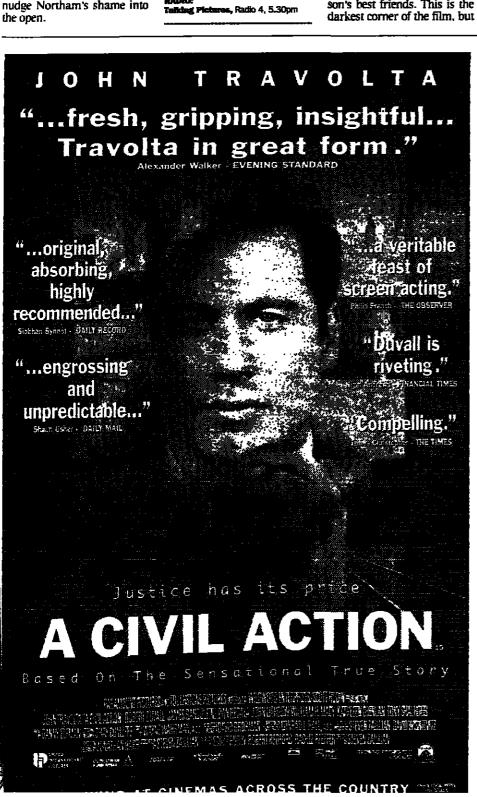
he hairy moral conundrum is exacerbated by Heche at her most intense and seductive. What follows is a monumental piece of arm-twisting. a littully troubling invitation to share the incarcerated joys of Midnight Express. Conrad grasps the moral nettle. Vaughn, with no morals to speak of but plenty of marbles. won't be budged. Ruben directs the film as if he were possessed by the spirit of Jeremy Paxman: What! No moral spine? The tension curdles into hand-wringing tedium. As if to alleviate the paralysis that settles over the film, Heche and Vaughn, her co-star in the remake of Psycho, embark on a corny romance. The subsequent twists just get cornier. They are nothing compared

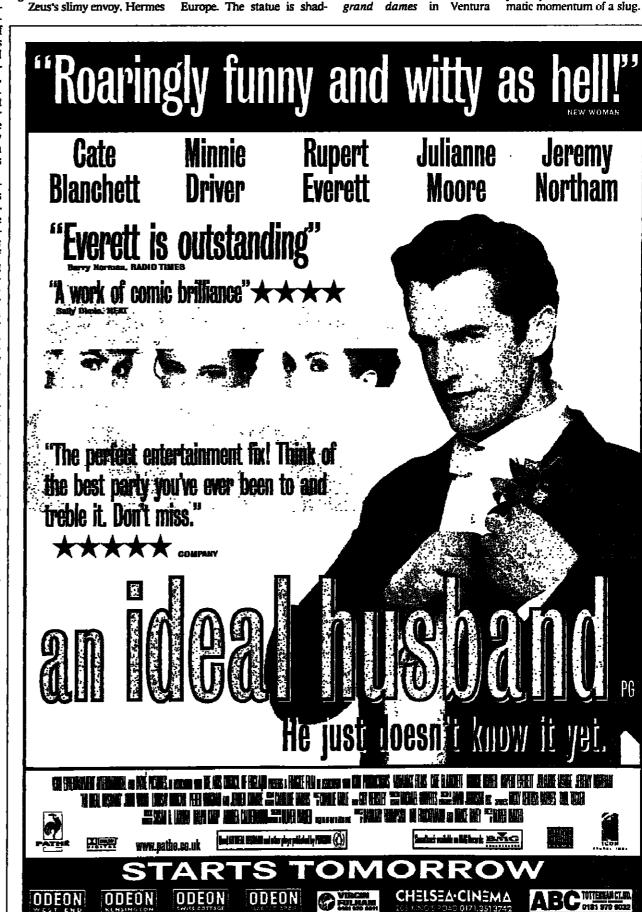
to the surreal leaps in Tony Harrison's extraordinary filmpoem, Prometheus. It's a dense work of genius and, at more than two hours and 86 pages, grindingly hard work at that. The saving grace is the fierce Northern vernacular and scathing irreverence of Harrison's verse. Inspired by Bound tand the lost Prometheus Unbound), Harrison has created a contemporary epic that links the plight of unemployed coal miners to the fate of the Titan who stole fire from Zeus and gave it to Man. What have we done with this mythic

(Michael Feast), dressed in a camp silver catsuit, gives the cynical lowdown as he follows the progress of a 30ft golden statue of Prometheus, fist raised, as it's hauled by truck, via the death camp at Dresden, to the great smelting sites and scorched cities of Eastern

owed by Fern Smith's Yorkshire Mum and cheered by Walter Sparrow's chain-smoking socialist. There is spectacular footage of enormous, panting cooling towers. Zeus knows what any of it means. Aeschylus again is the inspi-

Pons's static tribute to the stage. Actresses. They revive old jealousies when they remember how they did or didn't get the crucial part of Iphigenia in a famous teacher's last production. I can't think of anyone this film could ration for three Catalonian possibly interest. It has the dra-





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MAURIZIO POLLINI: The technically brillant planust turns his attention to Schubert as he tackles the com-poser's three last sonalas. The recitel Piano Senes Festival Half (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.30pm. (5)

GEOMETRY OF MIRACLES: In Robert Lepage's latest spectacle Frank Lloyd Wright discovers the spiritual tractrings of Gurdpell. A somewhat muddled evening. Lyttelton (0171-452 3000). Opens tonight, 7pm. (§)

ELSEWHERE:

Designs are by the



Michael Tilson Thomas conducts at the Barbican

choreographer for the first time. Theatre Royal (0141-332 9000). Opens lonight, 7.15pm.(5) LEEDS: Natasha Betteridge directs Kes, Lawrence Till's adaptation of Barry Hines's moving tale of the boy who finds inspiration nurturing a beb Quarry (0113-213 7700). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. (5)

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MAMMA MIAI: Musical based on the songs of Abba: Siobhan McCarthy and Lisa Stokke play mother and daughter on the eve of the grt's wedding. Phyllida Lloyd directs. Prince Edward (0171-447 5400).

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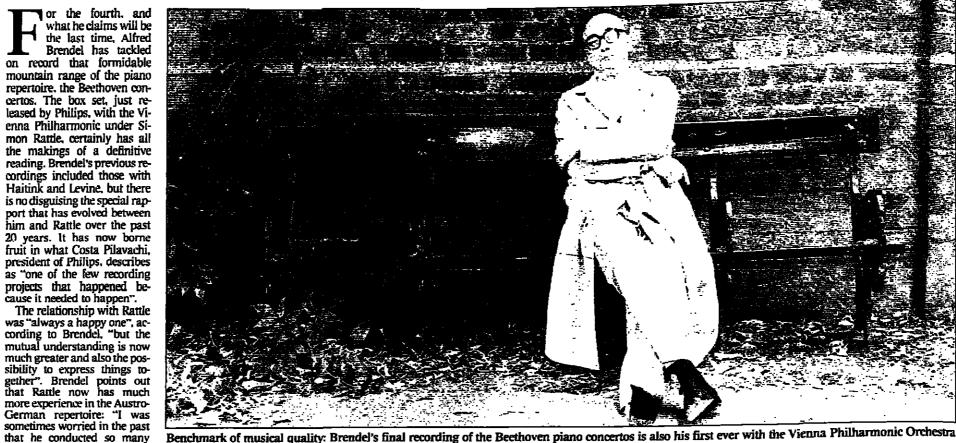
☐ THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE. Richard Dreytuss and

Marsha Mason make their British stage debuts in Neil Smon's play about big city angst. Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800).

III GOOD: C.P.Taylor's best play, tracing a liberal professor's gradual descent into working with the Nezis. Charles Dance heads a strong cast.

THE COLONEL BIRD: Bulgarian author Hosto Boytchev's award-win ning play about an asylum taken ove by the lunatics. Ruperi Gould directs. Gate (0171-229 0706). (2)

BLOOD KNOT: Barry Wallman and Gordon Case star m Athol Fu-gard's updated version of his cele-brated black and white brothers play. Riverside Studios (0181-237 1111). ☐ TALES OF A CITY: Life after a catastrophe, told as a mixture of dreams and memones by Macedonian write Goran Stevanovski. Sandy Maberley directs for Theatre Melange. ouse. Crowdon (D181-680 4060)



Benchmark of musical quality: Brendel's final recording of the Beethoven piano concertos is also his first ever with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

ments Beethoven wrote. I cannot find another example where you get three episodes which only come once, which are never repeated, like glimpses into a different world. They have to be incorporated, and you cannot incorporate them if you go straight forward." That means slowing up? "Yes. I am looking for psychological time not metronomical time."

That flexibility is not something that can easily be taught. In fact, according to Brendel, younger players tend to keep stricter time, but "gradually learn to modify the tempo, hopefully without losing the necessary pulse. The pulse is like the heartbeat, which can stand a certain amount of elasticity. There is very rarely a rupture or a new start in Beethoven's music."

Such tempo modification in these performances is very subtle, so much so that one hardly notices it. "Well, that's how it should be," Brendel says. Brendel's relationship with the Vienna Philharmonic goes

back to 1955. But curiously

they have never recorded to-

Why I return to Beethoven

MUSIC: Alfred Brendel tells **Barry Millington** why he

has recorded the piano concertos for the fourth time

more manifest on a modern in-

strument: in modern halls,

modern instruments give a bet-

the 1920s, though the central

The Variations, by contrast, ex-

workmanship" (as Hindemith

put it) and greater expressive

range. The recording of both

Andante goes a little deeper.

gether before, though the orchestra has made amends by appointing Brendel an honorary member. What he values above all with this elite band is the "continuity of timbre" arising from players being recruit-ed locally and studying with

orchestra principals. This leads to a discussion of period instruments, from whose pungent asperities the honeyed opulence of the VPO

hear a period orchestra I usually find the violins not expressive, not dynamic enough, for what they have to say - for how important they are in the score." Nor does Brendel care much for period keyboard instruments: many things "cannot be fully realised on old instruments. They can be made

have to hear a Beethoven concerto on the hammerklavier that makes any sense, in terms of what you want to hear in the main voices."

For a man as hungry to experience contemporary music as Brendel, his repertoire may seem surprisingly limited. He says that he admires enormously those players who can read and remember modern scores, but they are 'like a man coming from Mars, with

different nerves, muscles and a brain totally unlike mine".

He also alludes to a spinal problem that now prevents him from playing blockbusters such as the Liszt Sonata or even the Brahms concertos.

He is developing a productive relationship with the baritone Matthias Goerne, however. They are performing Schulen. Candide

er. They are performing Schubert's Winterreise and Schwanengesang cycles in America this month, and bringing the former to London in May and to Edinburgh in August. Another new venture is chamber music with his 22-year-old cellist son Adrian. Performances of the two Mozart piano quartets are scheduled for New York and Chicago this month.

Limited though Brendel's repertoire may be these days. the pay-off is that there is no sharper intellect - allied to a quirky humour and a wideranging awareness of all things cultural - at large in the musical world today.

 The Beethoven Concertos are on Philips 462 781-2 (3 CDs).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

A CIVIL ACTION (15): Meaty court-room drama with John Travolta and Robert Duvell in spariling form as

NEW RELEASES

two sharks in a case about toxic dumping, Steven Zaillian directs. BEDROOMS & HALLWAYS (15)
Playful romantic comedy about n Playful romantic comedy about male bonding with Simon Callow splendidly

miscast as a heterosexual New Age Svengali. Rose Troche directs.

NO (15): Robert Lepage's supple black comedy forms a psychedei chain of coincidences between a Canadian access and her borni-calcing bacters. A tractic p. co. making boytriend. A teasing puzzle about politics and art. THE FACULTY (15): Fishy sci-fi

eachers get taken over by ahen Robert Rodinguez flogs the creeping SLAM (15): Saul Williams outs in a

sensational performance as a black rap poet caught up in the Washington prison system. A gritty documentary style film by Marc Levin. HIGH ART (18): Ally Sheedy and Radha Mitchell spread lesbian gloom and doom in an upmarket photogra-

phic magazine. Drugs, decadence, und Fassbinder fall to Riuminate Lisa ORGAZMO (18): Tube station eleitly cartoon spool on the Hollywood porn industry. Trey Parker writes, directs, and stars.

CURRENT

TEA WITH MUSSOLINI (PG); Flashe of dry humour fluminate Zeffireins ribute to the English spinsters who raised him in Plorence before Must white Smith ini jaled them. With Maggie Smit Joan Plowright, and Judi Dench. PLUNKETT & MACLEANE (15): Jake

Scott's 18th-century swashbuckler mildly amusing if you like being mugged. With Robert Carlyle and Jonny Lee Miller. BLAST FROM THE PAST (12): A ingenious comedy about a man (Brenden Fraser) released after 35 years in a nuclear bunker. Bill Kelly

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (12): Charles Laughton's only stab at directing is a Tom Sawyer versus Sweeney Todd nightmare. Robert Mitchum's crocked preacher is unfor-

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UNDER the discreet guidance

things that were not first class, and I am glad that over the

past year he has focused more

on the music that I think is in

To see Brendel and Rattle in-

teracting in rehearsal in Vien-

na's Musikverein is to see two

contrasting intelligences seek-

ing common ground. "Do you mind if I take more time

here?" Rattle asks. "No - as

long as it's not too excessive,"

comes the reply. Good-na-tured banter of this sort dem-

onstrates not only the high

spirits of the performers but

also how they confound expec-

tation. When I observe that the

conductor's thrust in conjunc-

tion with the pianist's reflec-

tiveness gives rise to a creative

tension, Brendel insists that

"some of the thrusting for-

ward is my doing - and he

also can linger. I can tell you."

tions of the basic tempo more crucial than in the Fourth Con-

certo, where Brendel is con-

vinced they have set down the finest of which they are capa-

needs that flexibility: it's so dif-

ferent from other first move-

"The first movement

Nowhere are such modifica-

the centre of the repertoire."

of Sir Charles Mackerras EMI has put together a mixture of Handel and early Mozart for the American soprano Ruth Ann Swenson, Handel's Semele provides the excuse for a catchpenny title, in the aria where she sings of the joys above, courtesy of Jupiter who carries her off there. Pleasure is not endless, as Semele finds out, and the same is true of the Swenson recital. But it is certainly present in the opening and closing items.

Swenson's Semele is famous and she shows why in two ari-

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as displaying that lady's hedonistic view of the world. My-

Monday. She also shines in Guinia's la, the final item. In between is some lack of warmth in the voice. This is particularly so in Konstanze's great display of unhappiness from Mozart's Entführung. The notes are all there and the coloratura in perfect position. But the lady's bro-

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a vehicle for some of his most intensely private thoughts and so than in the songs of night and darkness. They are captured here by

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self I shall adore is particularinto a mirror and much liking what she sees there. The singing is cool and crisp, every note snot on. It is a useful enticement towards the ENO's first Semele, which opens on

aria from Mozart's Lucio Silthe tension slackens and there ken heart is absent: most of that has to come from Mackerras and the OAE players.

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DANCE

CLASSICAL CO

A fine Taiwanese debut

TOMORROW

New pop albums reviewed

Putting a fine Pangloss on wit Aussie Hail the Aussie

t is quite an auto-da-fé. Light reddens, smoke thickens. Watched by gravely incanting prelates in scarlet, the cast cheekily squawks and gleefully screeches, capering in a circle, as it offering us a depraved version of Ring-a-Roses. And finally, over the ashes of a pyramid of heretics, hangs the bunched body of Pangloss, prophet of optimism.

Ever since Leonard Bernstein and Lillian Hellman conceived the idea of a musical Candide in the mid-Fifties, hoping to assail an all-American cheeriness that seemed unaffected by the oppression of McCarthyism, productions of the show have by all accounts been getting less bland, more tough-minded; and, though it is sometimes too jokey for my taste, the revival that John Caird



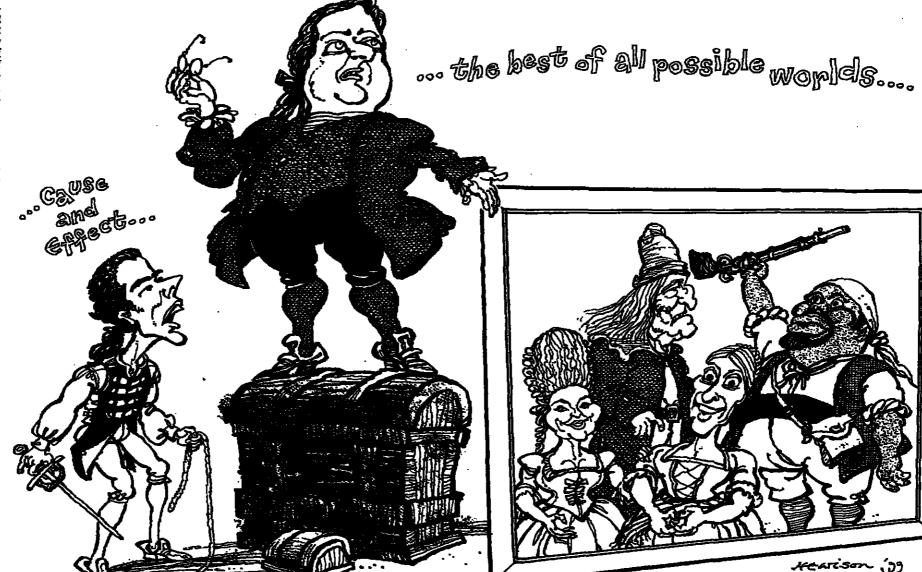
has rescripted and himself directed gives us plenty of Voltaire's sardonic comedy and dry, wry outrage.

You could argue that if ever a satir-ic target has been peppered out of ex-istence by time and circumstance, scientific discovery and philosophi-cal scepticism, it is the notion that all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds. Where there was once a glaring bull's-eye there is now just

a gaping hole.

But the thrust of the production is less the fatuity of unthinking optimism, more the absurd and exotic forms that human cruelty, greed and injustice take. Witness the battle scenes, not to mention Pangloss's argument that war is a wonderful way of achieving tribal unity: Can-dide has dated less than the Enlightenmentiera costumes suggest.

John Caird (who credits Trevor Nunn as assistant director in the programme) takes us from castles in Westohalia to casinos in Venice via the Lisbon earthquake, escape from the Inquisition and Eldorado, in the simplest, sparest way. Pretty well all that furnishes a shiny black circle is a series of chests, representing everything from boats to graves; but it is enough! especially with a cast capable of mirning shipwreck, cannibal convincing himself of the benefi-ritual and collective death on the cence of those ills. With Daniel



Six characters in search of Voltaire's best of all possible worlds: (from left) Daniel Evans, Simon Russell Beale, Alex Kelly, Denis Quilley, Beverley Klein and Clive Rowe

syphilis ward in old Amsterdam. A pacey, picaresque story needs a narrator, and gets a fine one from Simon Russell Beale, who saunters the stage informing us of devastating evils in cool, incisive style. Then specs appear on his nose, his body sags into a sort of granny-knot, and it is Pangloss himself, desperately

Evans's touching Candide - all nervy, tentative vowels and tiny, bird-like jerks of the head — the performance sustains the evening.

There are other admirable ones from Simon Day and, as Candide's beloved Canegonde, Alex Kelly. Indeed. Kelly performs marvels in terms both of disingenuous wit and high soprano notes with a bravura ode in which she piles pearls, diamonds and rouge on to herself while denouncing worldly treasure. Bernstein's score is never as hummable as his West Side Story and (the pessimistic Words, Words, Words is an exception) could use more Weill and less Sullivan and Puccini in its make-up; but it embraces tango. martial chorus, liturgical chant and

much else. Revisions since 1956 mean that

seven people are credited as lyricists, among them Dorothy Parker, Richard Wilbur and even Stephen Sondheim, who has reportedly introduced several scathing new rhymes. The song in which a nob patronises the peasantry — "being well bred helps you deal with those who sell bread"—is surely his. But it is a pity that nobody put a stop to an ending

tues of gardening — but does not mention the disillusioning miseries of the domestic life and love that Candide has spent the evening seeking. That must await a still harsher, more Voltairean staging.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE • This review appeared in late editions

The production never reconciles its duties to Mrs Sheri-

dan's memory with those to

which earnestly celebrates the vir-Bored in Bath

Lady Filmot (an enjoyably vampish Andrea Irvine) and Lord Stewkley (James Wallace), who callously plot the downfall of the innocents around them. Heiress Lucy Tryfort (Pauline Hutton) and equally gullible Edward Bull (Demian McAdam) are there-

fore in danger.

that when it comes to creativiyou just have to be best.

Kuti's fluency within the genre is impressive and those parts of the play that she owns have a drive and often a cynical flippancy which are hugely enjoyable. But The Whisper-ers still suffers from a first half numbingly dull enough to make sure nobody ever becomes acquainted with Kuti's writing.

contemporary audiences. Lynn Parker's direction could redress the imbalance between dialogue and Frances's lumbering scene setting. Bell Helicopter's punches of bright. ironic music added a little velocity, but the production often seems too bogged down in the nitty-gritty of sight lines and stage business to get to any substantial reshaping, or

to discover a short-cut to Bath. LUKE CLANCY

Adonis

f there is an art to singing badly, Bob Downe must count as one of the world's greats. Just when it seems he is going to get it right at last, the Australian king of easy listening can be relied on to gasp for breath in the wrong place or hit a note that is as garish as his many and varied safari suits.

In the wrong hands his Mil-lion Sellers show would amount to an extremely modest exercise in camp, ripe for a graveyard-hour series on Channel 5 but not much else. Anyone who caught quiz mas-ter Richard Whiteley's show in the same venue a while back will know exactly what I

Fortunately, Downe's creator and alter ego, Mark Trevorrow, has woven a marvellously convincing character around the naft renditions of half-forgotten hits dredged up



from ancient editions of Top of the Pops. Ad libs blend effortlessly into the scripted monologues. Trevorrow, nestling un-der a helmet-like blond wig. veers cleverly between narcis-sism and dry self-deprecation.

The humour sagged only halfway through the second half when he allowed himself to be entangled in an untidy and superfluous round of slapstick with his "guest". Pastel Vespa, a supposedly half-Brazilian vocalist with a strong line in Astrud Gilberto impersonations. Her bizarre reworkings of the likes of Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick were charming enough, but we did not need to hear quite so many

of them to get the point. Her duets with the Aussie Adonis were much more acutely observed. With the resourceful one-man band Bob Thorne supplying all the right light en-tertainment touches on the keyboard, they indulged in the sort of wholesome dance steps that have not been seen since the Young Generation parted company with Rolf Harris. as wide as his flared shirt collars, until he begins to suspect that Pastel is upstaging him.

The last time he played in London he put on a sparkling show at the Talk of London cabaret venue. The wider spaces of the Bloomsbury did not intimidate him. His ego needs all the room it can get.

CLIVE DAVIS

Highest of the high art

rini leaps on to the Circus Space stage sporting a vast pompadour, tight jeans and a bump and grind dance rou-tine. In his left hand is a hairbrush, actually a microphone, into which he delivers a little high-energy pop hymn to the joys of being gorgeous.

"I am nothing but spectacle," he sings, alluding to his adopted identity as a brainless himbo. For Zaccarini, this is a characteristic double bluff: Throat is constructed from a series of concealed identities. and in many ways it is also the central conceit of the show. Once one is aware of being a spectacle or conforming to some prescribed image, be it as a good-time boy, bored housewife or tragic child, how pure can that identity be?

Zaccarini's exploration of identity takes him from the adopted perfection of a day-



time TV poseur to the anorexic narcissus vomiting out the water of his own reflection. The characterisations are engagingly and credibly established before descending into a Nigel Charnock-esque flurry of nervous verbal tics and physical gibberish. That there is also a whiff of Lloyd Newson in some of the choreography is hardly surprising; Zaccarini provided the aerial highlight of DV8's Enter Achilles.

Where previous themes are picked up, however, Zaccarini takes them a step further, both through the stunning physical bravery of his performance and the added dimension of aerial work. The terrestrial dance elements are precisely performed, beautifully choreo-

Sadler's Wells

snaking pile of rice suggests a

river, and soon the dancers

are diving into it like eager sup-

plicants into holy water. Be-

fore they are through, the

stage will be covered in more

than three tons of rice, which

has been washed, dried and

dyed saffron yellow. In one glo-

riously eloquent setting, rice

shimmering night-time desert.

of an eternity of pilgrims.

slamming himself face down on to the floor or switching from affective catharsis to sweet comedy at the least appropriate moments. Predictably it is the aerial work that steals the show, from the whorish showtime routine to the image of Zaccarini balancing in the tangle of a high rope in a shower of rain. Certainly these airbome episodes are startlingly beautiful, but they also exercise a strong visceral tug, tap-ping in to dreams of weight-

Special effects are kept simple but powerfully elemental; an episode where a vast ball of dough is picked at until it becomes an oozing wound is particularly resonant. This is a fabulous piece of work, as passionately executed as it was beautifully conceived.

lessness and impossible grace.

HETTIE JUDAH

GARRICK was not, apparently, impressed when in 1765 Frances Sheridan submitted her latest play, A Trip to Bath, graphed and exciting to watch; Lane theatre. He rejected it.

Zaccarini thinks nothing of Frances's son, the play

wright Richard Brinsle Sheridan, however, regarded his mother's work highly enough to produce handwritten copies of the play's first three acts, and to lift liberally from it for his own work, most notably for his enduring character, Mrs Malaprop. Since only Brinsley Sheridan's handwritten copies now survive, to bring Frances's last work to the stage as The Whisnerers the actress Liz Kuti has 'restored" it by adding three fi-

nal scenes. The play concerns the treachery of a season at Bath, where many have reputedly come to take the waters, but most are busily trying to forge marriages in which money can mingle with breeding. The only problem is that almost everyone involved is pretending to rank or fortune they do not possess. Chief

he London Schools

the Tournemire with Saint-

Saēns's popular Symphony

No 3: both works feature the

organ, and both are structured

in four movements spread

over two parts. Both compos-

ers were organists themselves.

but there the parallels end.

The Saint-Saens is one of the

most brilliant French sympho-

nies, and though this perform-

ance of the Tournemire was

full of interest, it quickly ex-

plained why the work has lan-

among the pretenders are

But for all the archaeological endeavour, there is no great sensation that we have been missing out on something marvellous. Frances's Mrs Tryfort (played here by Noelle Brown) may have been a prototype for Mrs Malaprop, but this version of the character never threatens to be as enduring as her son's. It seems to prove the old adage

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CHANGING TIMES

Food for the soul

hen Lin Hwai-min founded Cloud Gate Dance Theatre in Taiwan in 1973, contemporary dance was in its infancy in his country. Today, a quarter of a century later, his company can lay fair claim to being "Asia's leading contemporary dance theatre". By any standards Lin's troupe, which made its British debut at Sadler's Wells on Tuesday night, is a fine ensemble and his choreography is both accomplished and gripping, rigorous and committed. and not a little beautiful too.

Songs of the Wanderers, the 90-minute production which the Taiwanese bring to London, takes its dangers on a journey to spiritual enlightenment. It starts with a single standing monk, frozen in prayer and unblinking despite the stream of rice which rains down on his shaven head, gradually forming a mound at his feet. For the next 90 minutes he will not move - the ultimate ascetic on his bwn path to enlightenment.

He is joined on stage by 14 pilgrims taking the first tentative steps in what will be a against which these wanderlong and arduous journey. A ers strive in their quest for



quietude". The religious images are fed by Buddhism, but

> piece to Georgian folk songs. The choreography is a fusion of East and West, from Martha Graham and classical ballet to Tai Chi and Chinese Opera. Its gnarled, carved shapes are delivered so slowly that they appear to unfold within a trance. Lin's dancers meditate before a performance and you can see why: the focus and connot required is formidable.

transforms the stage into a At the end a curtain of rice erupts in a golden explosion of its sands scored by the tracks ecstasy. It is a brilliant theatri-Geography is both the litercal moment which bedazzles at and metaphoric landscape

one doesn't need to recognise them to understand the fervour of Lin's journey. As if to underline the universality of his theme. Lin sets his

guished in obscurity. Charles Tournemire, who was born in 1870 and drowned at sea in 1939, is best remembered as the composer of L'orgue mystique, a cycle of organ suites for every Sunday of the church's year. As organist of Sainte-Clotilde in Paris he followed in the footsteps of one of his teachers, Franck; like another teacher. Widor, his output included several forgotten operas and prolific amounts of

chamber music. Tournemire composed his Third Symphony after a visit to Russia, and subtitled it Mos-DEBRA CRAINE | cou: the Russian influence is

CONCERT

Symphony Orchestra is always adventurous in its programming. This concert enticed those curious to hear the first British performance of Tournemire's Symphony No 3, seldom played since its Concertgebouw premiere in 1914. heard most strongly in the gopak-like dance of the second It was also clever to couple

A big adventure

movement and the evocation of the Kremlin bells in the third. The impressionistic first movement is less arresting. though its opening rather intriguingly points towards the beginning of Puccini's "Paris" opera, Il tabarro. Some passages wander generically, and the final apotheosis nearly doesn't happen, but the best moments, like the third movement's carillon, are striking. In contrast to the Saint-Saens, the organ part is disappointingly unspectacular.

As well as putting the Tournemire into perspective, the Saint-Saens gave the young players something with which to prove themselves. There is nothing elusive about this score, and Peter Stark got a performance of sweep and vigour. Richard Hunt displayed the necessary nerves of steel in his handling of the organ part, and with excellent playing from all sections of the orchestra this was a very grown-up performance.

JOHN ALLISON

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BOOKS

Celebration of life in the face of death

Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks hails a moving testament

to the vanished world of the shtetl, a reminder

of how Jews lived before the horror of the Holocaust

 owards the end of her life, Lucy Davidowitz. doyenne of Holocaust historians, expressed qualms about the sheer flood of Shoah literature which, she feared. was threatening to drown out all other memories of European Jewry. The result, she warned, would be that young people would learn about "the Greeks and how they lived, the Romans and how they lived, and the Jews and how

Her concern was justified. The Holocaust meant more than the murder of two thirds of Europe's Jews. It spelt the end of one of the most energetic and diverse of Europe's culcommunity life of the shtetl. the small townships of Central and Eastern Europe, with their rich and vivid worlds of Jewish piety and Yiddish humour. The Jews of Europe did more than die. They lived. And that life too deserves its

Walking around the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, I was struck by one section that did just this. Called The Tower of Life, it is a pictorial history of a small own in Lithuania called Eishyshock told through 1,500 photographs of the Jews who once ived, worked and prayed together there. It is almost unbearably moving, allowing us to identify with lives cut short, a community extinguished, a vay of life destroyed. That exhibit, I now discover,

was the work of a remarkable historian, Yaffa Eliach, who has spent the past 17 years reconstructing the story of the town she was forced to leave as a child. There Once Was a World is that story, and it is

destined to become a classic. Eishyshock since before the lith century. It was a small community whose Jewish population rarely numbered more than 3,000. But through the centuries it sustained a vigorous Jewish life, together with synagogues, houses of study and an academy that could boast among its alumni some of the giants of the rabbinical world, among them the saintly Chafetz Chaim and Rabbi Isaac Reines, a pioneer of

THERE ONCE WAS A WORLD By Yaffa Eliach Little, Brown, £30



Eliach documents every aspect of the community. There are some marvellous stories. loved the account of how the town acquired its second synagogue, built as an act of revenge by the father of the bar mitzvah boy who felt that his son (an ignoramus, but still the son of a wealthy man) had not been given sufficient honour. The argument split the town for 20 years.

Then there was the great exorcism that wasn't. Reb Meyshe-Yude, the schoolteacher, had been haunted at night by strange sounds which he naturally attributed to a gilgul, a stray soul, who had taken up residence in his ear. A quorum was gathered and a solemn exorcism duly performed but to no avail. Some days later all was explained. A mouse had become trapped in the lining of his bedcover and was trying to escape. Ever afterwards the teacher was known as Reb Maizele, the "little mouse".

merchants and child prodigies, the whole rumbustious, God-intoxicated atmosphere could have come straight from the fiction of Shalom Aleichem and Bashevis Singer. Never before, though, has it been more painstakingly recorded as his-

tory, or more poignantly.

For it was all destined to end. In June 1941 the German army invaded Lithuania and entered Eishyshock. On Sep-tember 25 and 26, 3,500 of Eishyshock's Jews, with another 1.500 from the surrounding countryside, were murdered, men on the first day, women and children on the second. Only a handful survived. The town rabbi was forced to stand and watch the murder of his congregation and his family and was then buried alive.

years old at the time, spent the rest of the war in hiding and later witnessed the murder of her mother and brother. Her mission has been to move beyond the "stark images of victimisation and death" and write Holocaust history as a testament to life. Her book — massive, meticulous and written with astonishing grace - is a heartbreaking masterpiece.

it owes its title to one of the survivors, Eliach's uncle. who encouraged her to write so that the shtetl might live on in memory. "At least the people." he said, "and perhaps even God, will remember that there once was a world filled with faith. Judaism and humanity." There once was, and this is its



Recording the past: the Holocaust Memorial Museum



Pope, patron and pop

Michelangelo starts with a mighty advantage: the mass of material surviving from his own lifetime, including two biographies, of which the secand represents his "authorised version" of his own career.

But with all the evidence accumulated by modern scholarship comes a mighty challenge. And about some peri-:103 lije, notably the years he was growing up in Florence, our knowl-

edge is patchy and unsure. Professor Beck clearly relishes the challenge. Based on the sources and abreast of current research, his book is intentionally — and boldly — specula-tive. Yet he often fills his pages with familiar factual details (over, for instance, the placing of Michelangelo's David statue) of little or no relevance to his aim. That is to delineate what he calls three "worlds" of

ny consideration of Michelangelo under the dominance of three "fathers": Lorenzo de' Medici ("the Magnificent"); Pope Julius II; and his actual father, Lodovico Buonarroti. They were crucial for the fulfilment of Michelangelo's "mission". According to the author: "Each formed for the artist an epicentre for discovery and expansion".

Less grandiloquently, every one would agree that Julius II tron, with ideas ambitious enough to equal Michelangelo's. Creative tension between two men never resulted in anything more sublime than the ceiling frescoes of the Sistine Chapel. But there was no need to describe each element of the scheme, though here it supplements a sooty, barely legible two-page illustration pasted over with labels. Professor Beck ought to be horrified by the poor quality of the illustrations throughout his book.

MICHAEL LEVEY THREE WORLDS OF **MICHELANGELO** By James Beck



One novelty he does offer, as a 'highly engaging possibili-ty'. is identification of the head of Holofernes, in the frescoes of Judith and Holofernes. as a portrait of Julius II. This

is explained as a way of "poking fun" at the Pope's reputation as a womaniser. More holy terror than Holy Father. Julius II might have been less amused than Professor Beck assumes. In sad reality, he was a "father" who disappointed Michelangelo by dying before realisation of their joint project of his tomb - too cursorily discussed here.

We know tantalisingly little patrona : Lorenzo de' Medici extended to the young Michelangelo. If a "father", in some sense, he was one who died suddenly and prematurely. Professor Beck invests him with magus-like significance, drifting from speculation into fancy: "A treasure trove of mysterious and exotic objects was laid open . . . by Lorenzo, who -we can guess - unfolded their secrets patiently . . ."

After that, it is inevitable that the Ghirlandaio brothers. in a perplexing book

who first took the boy into their studio, should be termed "predictable, profit-oriented craftsmen". Ghirlandaio deserves proper evaluation. His best work is far from "predictable". And his studio provided something Lorenzo de' Medici could not: sound training in painting techniques. Not even Professor Beck can

make much of a case for treating Michelangelo's father as an "epicentre" of more than grumbling self-pity. He was a paternal figure who had opposed the boy's wish to be an artist and who declined to die iust lived on to be a burden to his famous, middle-aged son. Although the Doni tondo and the David statue are discussed in connection with him, nothing suggests his interest in them. How he justifies the claim of helping Michelangelo fulfil his "mission" remains the most perplexing question

The transatlantic tale of the iceberg that was as big as Chile

ne way or another much of the work in the canon of Ariel Dorfman has taken a microscope to the Pinochet dictatorship and its troubled aftermath. His latest novel, The Nanny and the leeberg, is no exception. Yet for those who think of the Chilean poet, dramatist and novelist primarily as writer of the disturbing and politicised play Death and the Maiden, his new book will come as a surprise. A political vein runs

through The Nanny and the Iceberg, set in a post-Pinochet Chile experiencing the uneasy rebirth of democracy in the early 1990s; but this story and the way of its telling seem a world away from the sinister claustrophobia of Dorfman's

landmark drama. The new novel is a pseudopicaresque tale, taking in two Americas, North and South, two Spanish-speaking territories in the old world and the new, and told with an endearing streak of intelligent, mischievous humour and a layer of eroticism which blend seamlessly together. Dorfman has woven a fictional web around a historical event: the Antarctic iceberg brought halfway around the world to take pride of place in the Chilean pavil-ion during the 1992 World's Fair in Seville, a gesture to mark Columbus's discovery of the Americas 500 years earlier. And a symbol, perhaps, of a reborn Chile although, as one of Dorfman's large cast explains, you can "see in it whatever you want to see".

BRADBURY

THE NANNY AND THE ICEBERG By Ariel Dorfman Sceptre, £10 ISBN 0 340 71302 X



Protagonist and narrator Gabriel McKenzie sees a bit of himself, identifying with the virginal quality he detects deep within the translucent ice. Because at 23, going on 24, Gabriel is an impotent Santiago-born virgin who believes himself cursed. Seventeen years an exile in New York (echoing Dorfman's own status as exile in an adopted America), Gabriel is haunted by his father. "the great Cristobal McKenzie", who, thousands of miles away, is busy on his life-affirming. Don Juan mission to make love every single day until his 50th birthday. Cristobal only came to sex in his twenties, but when he did he promised to never let go, and wagered with his best friend, Pablo Baron,

that he would fulfil his Casano-

ised that 25 years on he would be the most powerful man in

When long-suffering Mila-gros, Gabriel's mother, finally takes them both back to Chile and to Cristobal, Gabriel sees it as his opportunity to bond again with his father, learn the lessons of love and lift the terrible curse on his sex life. But he finds himself a stranger to both the city where he was born and to his father, while the tangle of secrets and lies Gabriel finds in Santiago is more complicated than he could ever have suspected. It's the iceberg project, threatened with destruction by a mysteri-ous letter writer, which finally brings Gabriel closer to his father and his enigmatic, allknowing Nana. who could just be the last survivor of a Patagonian Indian tribe. She quietly tries to help the ill-fated, misguided Gabriel in his search for happiness and understanding when all the odds seem stacked against him.

Taking the form of "the longest suicide note in history" - building up to a potentially explosive finale in Seville, city of Don Juan and Columbus — Gabriel's story is beautifully told. Dorf-man's novel is wonderfully peopled with doppelgangers, metafictional turns and doses of myth and magic. The Nanny and the leeberg affirms Ariel Dorfman's place, alongside Vargos Llosa and Gabriel Garcia Márquez, as one of the finest voices in contemporary Latin American storytelling.

■ JILLY COOPER has had a strange experience. Her new novel Scores, out in May from Transworld, is a murder mystery, and at the end of it a group of people are standing round a grave. Suddenly a peacock butterfly flies up from the grave, and everybody thinks it is a ghost. Last weekend she was standing by the grave of her Gloucestershire garden and a peacock butterfly flew up from it, the first of the spring. She is hoping it is a good omen for her book.

■ BRIAN APPLEYARD reported in last weekend's Sunday Times that the Royal Society of Literature is thinking of electing scientific writers to its fellowships, and he predicted that the selfish-gene man, Richard Dawkins, would soon be offered one. The Society has moved more swiftly than Appleyard knew. Dawkins was made an FRSL two years

■ WILBUR SMITH'S Monsoon has just broken all the records by becoming the biggest selling fiction hardback in one week ever. It sold 18,700 copies in the first week of publication. According to Bookwatch, the previous leader was Maeve Binchy's Evening Class with 16,400.

MARY LUTYENS, who died last week at the age of 90. always did things her own way. She began by writing light romances and ended up as an outstanding biographer of the Ruskin circle. When her father, the great architect Edwin Lutyens, died on New Year's Day, 1944, she wanted a personal memento of him and took his razor, because she smiled to think of him shaving in his bath without a mirror, as he always did.

DIARY & LETTERS

POETS are taking up residence all over the shop. Now there is one at the Museum of London — Bernadine Evaristo, the author of the verse-novel Lara (Angela Royal Publishing, £7.99) a couple of years ago. She has been delving into the Museum's collection to find echoes of black people's presence in London over 2.000 years, and will be reading her poems on the subject there on Thursday June 24 at 6_30pm (£4).

■ AND under plain brown wrapper: in 1993 Virgin's Black Lace brought erotic fiction written for women by women out from under the ready publish the Idol imprint of erotic fiction for gay men, are launching Sapphire, lesbi-an fiction for women. The "sexy, gender-bending" Big Deal by Helen Sandler — once acting editor of Diva - is well and truly out on May 20.

■ AMAZON.COM. their UK arm, amazon.co.uk. are starting to face stiff competition over internet bookselling. In the United States. amazon.com and barnesand-noble.com vie for cyberbookshopping; now, in Britain, Ottakar's joins amazon and bol. com online. Find them from late summer at: www.ottakars.co.uk

And e-mail us at books@the-times.co.uk

Carry on, Mr President, you're even funnier than fiction

o, into every life some pain must crawl. For a few, the mauling pain will shape the life; for others, pain will be the starting point on a soaring arc of recovery toward redemption. History — unlike novels — tells us otherwise. The speaking oracle of history tells us most lives are lived unplotted by defining points along a narrative arc. Most human beings live lives of undefining moments.

Such are not the lives we expect to find in novels; nor, for that matter, do we expect novelists to live undefining, ordi-nary lives. In the case of American novelist Tim O'Brien, the pain that crawled into his life and gave its anguished shape to his bent was none other than that immense defining "moment" in America's recent history, the war in Vietnam. in three stunning novels -

lf I Die in a Combat Zone, Going After Cacciato and The Things They Carried - O'Brien has been unsparing, and unsurpassed, in showing us the scars of war his psyche bears. For 20 years he has given us harrowing written proof of his unwillingness to be defined only by his experiences in that war. Again and again he has tried to wrestle awake from that nightmare into a dreamlike peace, only to be pulled back, fated like Prometheus to be chained forever to the pain. Watching him attempt to free himself through his subsequent novels (all of them excursions into isolation and loss) has been, at times, excruciating; but that is part of

MARIANNE **WIGGINS**

TOMCAT IN LOVE By Tim O'Brien Flamingo, £16.99 ISBN 0 00 225819 6



what makes reading him exciting. Will he succeed against his own demons? If so, how? In Tomcat in Love, loss is yet again O'Brien's theme.

eponymous Torncat, has lost Lorna Sue, the girl-next-door he fell in love with at age sev. his fault. Close, as they say, en, fell into carnal knowledge of a decade later on the hood of his father's Pontiac in the middle of a Minnesota cornfield and, eventually, married. O'Brien's first-person narrator Tom (for whom read Tim, himself) relates the tale of how Lor-Tom's best friend - reveals a love "ledger" (an account of sexual conquests) which Tom has kept hidden, so to speak,

like a jungle scours, trained to the ground for subtle footfalls. He hears, and creates, spooks at the end of spoken sentences. The first six pages of Tomcat in Love, establishing the antici-pation which always foreshadows loss, are O'Brien at his brilliantly weir and frighten-

ing best. Unfortunately, after that what O'Brien hopes to fly as broad (pun intended) sexual comedy falls flat until its unexpected redeeming final page. Dull where definess is needed. what is intended as high comedy reads more farci than farce. This is probably Bill Clinton's fault. Even someone of O'Brien's ample gifts could not have anticipated the sheer farcical brilliance of The Starr Report. The lunacy alive in the air in the States is hard to capture in fiction - in fact, it may be impossible — so the second-Thomas H. Chippering, the hand feeling of reading recycled jokes in many of O'Brien's set scenes is not entirely

but no cigar. Tomcat in Love is never quite buoyantly nutso to be farce. It lumbers along, sputtering like a cartoon Chevy gasping for gas. Then it delivers a coda on the last page which made my heart leap na Sue has left him and gone with hope. Yes, O'Brien arto Tampa, Florida, into the gues convincingly, there is arms of a tycoon after her something on the other side of brother Herbie - formerly pain worth fighting for. Its shape is Love Thank you.

Marianne Wiggins's novel. beneath the conjugal mattress. Almost Heaven, is published by Anchor at £9.99. Mouse roared

colin Shindle





By John Mc

صحدا سالاص

BOOKS مكذا من الأصل

Sex isn't everything, but everything is sex

Oxford's reader on sexuality explores the protean passion which pleasures and pains humanity

hy there should be an Readers" guide to sexuality is anybody's guess. Law-rence once said that sex in the head was the most uncomfortable place to have it, and this volume might seem to represent the ultimate in cerebral eroticism. There are essays with such titles as Inanna Rejoicing in her Vulva, Sodomy and Moral Panic in the Low Countries and "Deep Sex" in the Skeleton. Each may be valuable in itself, but en masse they may not be consid-

ered suitable bedtime reading.

Such is the pervasiveness of the subject, however, that to talk about sex is to talk about everything else from oligarchical government to 19th-century theories of selfhood. The problem is compounded by the fact that the expression of sexuality changes with each generation, or with each culture, so that researchers are not necessarily or always talking about the same thing.

In Ancient Canopus, and in many other pre-Christian civilisations, the sex act was considered a form of worship; in classical Athens sexuality was seen as an indication of social identity and "a manifestation of personal status". It need not necessarily be assumed, however, that the advent of Christian morality cast a sudden and brutal cloud over the unthinking pleasures of the pagans — as one of the control of t the contributors here remarks, the Ancients could be just as pessimistic and unhappy about sexual congress as the most melancholy anchorite.

The woes of women began a little later, when the medieval Church decided that females were pre-emi-nently emblems of lustfulness and thus "created sexual sin as a particularly feminine crime". No pleasure was to be expected or experienced by good women in the act itself, therefore, except the gratification of knowing that another little

Christian was on its way to being born. The ideal woman was one who followed the example of Zeno-bia, Queen of Palmyra, who "had no more sensitivity in her sexual parts than in her feet or hands". Yet it is suggested in Sexuality that this extraordinary misinterpretation of the female continued for many centuries, through the agency of such seers as Rousseau and Freud. But if women were mistreated,

those known by the name of sodomites had even more unhappy experiences. If caught they were burnt and tortured or, if they were fortunate, garrotted and drowned in a barrel. These examples of violent animosity were periodic in nature and in intensity, generally occur-ring in eras when a range of vic-tims were being chosen to expiate more general social problems. Of course, as the editor explains

here, perversions were the creation of the 19th century. The intellectual police, in the mid-point of that era,



committed the extraordinary sin of naming them, and then created "a small army of medical and legal specialists devoted to studying, cur-ing or punishing them". This embodies a point made by many con-tributors to this anthology — sex. and its varied descriptions, is always part of the more general culture. In the 19th century it might be

constructed as a form of bourgeois familial morality or it might be seen as a form of transcendental impulse based upon borrowings from German idealism. Sex is not an "it" which persists perpetually, mani-festing itself in the same range of activities, but a protean force which can take a thousand different forms or appearances.

Despite its forbidding appearance, therefore, this book is worth pursuing — there are discussions on prostitution, "liberation" and masturbation. A textbook of the 18th century, entitled *Onania*, was "a compilation of the lives of men brought low by self-abuse", and elaborate lists of precautions were suggested. One victim of the habit kept a record of his "seminal losses": "Excitement in morning; only drops. . " Masturbation was considered the prime cause of degeneracy in individuals, and in races more dangerous than plagues or wars. It is easy to ridicule these opponents of the pleasure principle, but the same overreactions are still displayed by the opponents of

drink or cigarettes. One general point remains, however, resting largely on the belief

propounded by the editor of this col-lection that individuals "are increasingly obliged to present to the world a self based in large degree on personal sexual identity". Certainly the 20th century has seen an emphasis upon sexuality, to the exclusion of everything else, and this has created an unbalanced and almost hysterical obsession with sexual preference and sexual activity.

It may be worth repeating that sexual identity is not the most important component of human character. What began as a 20th-century sexual revolution has turned into the newest forms of conformity and conventionality. The strength of this book lies in its wholly objective manner in the face of sexual correctness. A tendentious account of Aids, for example, is succeeded by a sharp rebuttal. The only real problem in writing about sex is that of predictability: by juxtaposing many writers and many ideas, Sexuality avoids that fate and offers a great deal of enlightenment as well.

> SEXUALITY Edited by Robert A. Nye OUP, £15 ISBN 0 19 288019 5



Albion stands alone

NOR SHALL MY SWORD By Simon Heffer Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.99 ISBN 0 297 64332 0

IN the moment of Scottish and Welsh devolution, Heffer washes his hands of the Union and calls for a revival of English cultural nationalism. In a thoroughly nasty, narrow little book, Heffer takes the English to task for weakkneed acquiescence in multiculturalism and political naivety. This wanton political polemic manages to be not only offensive to the Scots, Welsh and Irish, but takes a swipe at Europe and cuffs at the complacency of English yeomen and yobbos alike.

All loved-out

THE END OF THE NOVEL OF LOVE By Vivian Gornici Virago, £9.99 ISBN 1 86049 646 6

THIS lit-crit excursion posits the death of romantic love in literature as well as in living experience. Gornick's theme, that love might dilute the strength of a good novel rather than gather it in", embraces, among others, the fiction of George Meredith, Willa Cather and Virginia Woolf and the lives of Clover Adams. Hannah Arendt and Jean Rhys. "Love as a metaphor," Gornick concludes, "is an act of nostalgia, not of discovery." You might as well die, as Dorothy Parker didn't say.

Just joking

PLAY RESUMED By D. J. Enright ISBN 0 19 288108 6

AMONG the pleasures of Enright's enlightening engrams, we are promised "the funny side of Goethe, Kafka and Schopenhauer" — the very highest of jinks. But poets, Enright observes, take a risk when they lighten solemnity with wit. He shouldn't worry about being given the burn's rush from the poetry reading circuit: his humour is sufficiently erudite and high-minded. Some old-fartism aside, he casts an experienced eye and cocks an ironic ear on everything from God to Grub

IAIN FINLAYSON



Michael Eisner revived Disney's

fortunes by his animated dealing, says Colin Shindler

probably the most important Hollywood mogul since Jack Warn-er in the 1960s. It could never be said of him, as it could of Warner, that he would rather tell a bad joke than make a good movie. He has made many good movies - from The Lion King to Dead Poets Society. Eisner is the chairman of the Walt Disney Company.

Eisner achieved his current lofty status via New York and televison, unlike the old heads of the studios who despised television and thought of New York, where fiscal decisions were taken, as "the enemy".

Eisner began life in a comfortable Park Avenue apartment on the Upper East Side. His grandfather Sigmund Eisner had followed the classic immigrant trail — arriving penniless in America in 1880, finding work as a pedlar and millionaire status making uniforms for the Army. The progress of the Eisners is a perfect example of the way in which Hollywood has evolved

in the past 75 years.
No doubt Sigmund's son and grandson could have en-

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WORK IN PROGRESS By Michael Eisner

Penguin



joyed the fruits of his labours. but Grandpa's legacy appears to have been a ferocious work ethic. Eisner's father consumed Princeton and Harvard Law School and became head of public housing for the state of New York. Eisner writes admiringly of his father that he always seemed youthful, charismatic and athletic. He loved golf, tennis and polo, "coming home bruised and bloodied". This sounds like a man to avoid on the 18th green with the match all square.

Work In Progress, despite being written "with Tony Schwartz", is the unmistakable voice of Hollywood's most powerful executive. Do not read it with a view to learning more about the mechanics of film-making. There are no insights into the production of Eisner's movies which included, during his time at Paramount, Raiders of the Lost Ark, Reds, Ordinary People and Terms of Endearment. The art of Holly-

wood is the art of the deal and

be bewildering for the general

Eisner is one of the best.

His description of how he came to be chief executive at Disney, his 15-year collaboration with Jeffrey Katzenberg who left in a huff to found the Dream Works studio with Steven Spielberg and David Gef-fen — and his subsequent tortured working relationship with Michael Ovitz are the

stuff of this book. Disney is no longer a film company, it is a brand. Eisner's job is not to supervise movies but to produce profits for the Disney empire which

land Paris to Broadway versions of the animated films. Eisner took a troubled company and made it one of the success stories of recent corporate American history. How it will survive in the event of Eisner's departure, which nearly happened after a heart attack in 1994, is harder to predict.

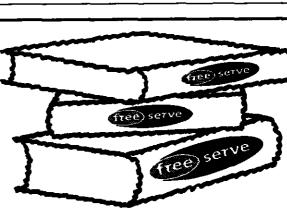
Melanie Griffith and Antonio Banderas with Mickey Mouse at the opening ceremony of the Planet Hollywood Café at Disneyland Paris, 1996

now stretches from Disney-

In 1940 Leo Rosten wrote Hollywood, the Movie Colony, the Movie Makers, the first sociological examination of the American film industry. In

1951 the New Yorker journalist Lillian Ross wrote a book called Picture which detailed the making of John Huston's The Red Badge of Courage during the months at MGM when Louis B. Mayer was being manoeuvred out of his own company. Work in Progress is unlikely to acquire the same literary cachet, but it is possible that it will be examined by media students in 50 years as the former is now - a telling snapshot of Hollywood

at the end of the millennium.



INTERVIEWED THIS SATURDAY

Crime writer Walter Mosley

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It's all a state of mind

ven if he did not admit, in the first chapter, that he was no profes-sional scientist but a journalist instead. John McCrone's slick and pacy style is a dead giveaway. Here, at last, is a book on the brain where sentences sparkle: it is a true joy to read and, at least for the first half, impossible to put down. We join McCrone in the

mid-1970s, where he is fascinated by the reality of a moment of consciousness, yet bitterly distillusioned by the sterile scientific approaches of the time. Rather than plod through each technical advance year by remorseless year, McCrone has a more agile strategy: we are intro-duced to the awesome progress in brain research as each comes appropriately to hand for building up a picture of how the brain does indeed generate the subjective experience of a moment of living. Accordingly, the next few chapters take a very sensible look at brain scanning, the seemingly eternal controversy of conscious computers and the actual relevance of recording the brain's electrical signals.

humanises the story by de-

McCrone's manifesto, eloquently and persuasively argued, is that the brain is above all a dynamic system - not tractable to computational description but more a cauldron of interconnected and evolving back into his narrative. processes most hopefully modelled not by Chaos, but by Complexity Theory, McCrone

GOING INSIDE By John McCrone Faber & Faber £20 ISBN 0 571 17319 5



scribing the key events along the way. Whole careers as well as personal characteristics of diverse scientists are laid out before us - telling tales of the perils of going against inherit-ed wisdom, of serendipitous discovery and of the burden of preconceived ideas. Yet despite the well-argued stance in favour of incessant change in the brain where vibrance, adaptability and wholesale operations distinguish it at the most fundamental level from the input/output processing of a computer, McCrone lapses into the very trap he eschews. As he builds up from whole events to whole brain regions. the inevitable stage by stage processing so beloved of the computer modeller creeps

In a book with no illustrations at all, the neuroanatomical circuits described may well

reader, let alone the descriptions of how they work sequen-tially together. McCrone's case is not helped by the graphic but misleading writing tricks of referring to each re-gion as a clearly defined centre that "decides" or "compares" or "filters" as though each was an autonomous mini-brain. To be fair, the concluding chapters do return to the message that the changing brain enables a moment of consciousness to bring "your entire history to bear on your next step. your next breath, your next moment — as McCrone quotes the pioneer neuroscientist Walter Freeman. It is not an end product but a change in an ongoing state. However, such showcasing

of some means omission of others. In a book exploring consciousness, I would have expected some discussion of Penrose's application of Quantum Theory and of Amilam Grinwald's sumning experiments showing that brain cells can indeed assemble into functional groups of some ten million within a mere 230 seconds and all triggered by a single light flash. Moreover, the excursion into self-consciousness and language would have benefited from reference to the ideas of the archaeologist Stephen Mithen who has come up with a theory as to how the modern human mind differs both from our primate

cousins and indeed from our

Neandershal predecessors.



consciousness might have hoped for applications of all of McCrone's comprehensive knowledge of the brain to the actions of modifying drugs, of hormones and indeed to the importance of the rest of the body to the "feel" of an emotion - as well as a discussion of the relevance of all the above to disorders such as schizophrenia and depression.

But coming up with a good "slant" on consciousness is a tall order. I would love this book to be on all introductory reading lists for those studying the brain. For while it gives no insight nor any real new way of looking at consciousness itself, Going Inside is a brilliant entree to the highs and lows of the current state of the art of neuroscience.

SUSAN GREENFIELD

Tale aimed high

here was an unusual degree of consensus among Moscow's otherwise riven literati when the shortlist for the 1997 Russian Booker Prize was announced. It was as though everyone including the shortlisted au-thors — felt impoverished by the exclusion from the contest of Chapaev and the Void, an ambitious novel by Victor Pelevin, one of Russia's most promising young writers. English readers may never get the chance to read Anatoli Azolsky's The Cage which went on to win. However, Pelevin's metaphysical tour de force, renamed The Clay Machine-Gun (Faber, £9.99; ISBN 0 571 19406 0), is now available in a true translation

by Andrew Bromfield. In this novel Pelevin develops the technique, perfected in his satirical short stories, of constantly tilting the narrative floor so that the reader no longer knows where the border between fantasy and reality lies. The Clay Machine-Gun ostensibly tells a version of the

much-mythologised history of Vasily Chapaev, the heroic Red Army Commander during the Civil War, through the eyes of his devoted adjutant Petka. Through a series of drunken discussions in the bathhouse, Petka and Vasily grapple with the themes of Russia's history, before going out to do battle with the help of Anka, their powerfully attrac-

tive machinegunner. Alternatively, the novel de-

phrenic fantasies of a group of patients in a contemporary Moscow asylum. Maria thinks he is a female Mexican soap star clinging to the body of a jet fighter piloted by Ar-nold Schwarzenegger. Serdyuk believes that he has been forced to commit ritual suicide when an interview with a Japanese bank makes unexpected claims on his honour. Volodin

is certain that he burns with

On another level still, the

the grace of God

novel is "a peculiar flight of free thought" to Inner Mongolia on the edge of the Eastern Steppe, and a spiritual place where consciousness and eternal grace unite. You can pick over the trail of Russian literature and history finding clues in the references culled from intensive reading. You can leave the asylum under the sometimes brutal guidance of Doctor Timur Timurovich (the psychological Tamberlaine); you can follow Chapaev as he applies the teachings of Buddha with the help of a meta-

physical clay machinegun. By juggling so many narrative balls it is perhaps inevitable that Pelevin disappoints the reader by allowing some of them to crash to the floor. And while The Clay Machine-Gun demonstrates that Pelevin is a virtuoso of the short story, it also reveals his weakness as a

> NATASHA FAIRWEATHER

🖿 A selection of last-minute Continent and further afield,

holidays and travel opportunities at home, on the many at bargain prices

WINDMILLS, post. smock and tower dominate the Norfolk Broads and many will be open and in action on National Mills Weekend, May 8 to 9. The best way to see them is by boat and Norfolk Broads Direct has four-berth fullyequipped cruisers available from £259 for three nights that weekend or £398 for the week. Details: 0800 917 3206.

SWINDON seems an unlikely setting for a Festival of Literature but from May I to 9. readings, talks and workshops will take place, featuring writ-ers from the serious Beryl Bainbridge to the frivolous Penny Junor. If you want to stay, choose from Lower Shaw Farm, where B&B costs £12. or

CHICAGO

ORLANDO

FAR EAST

LOS ANGELES

the De Vere Hotel, where Edwina Currie will be appearing and where two nights' halfboard costs £75. Details: 01793

POWIS Castle and gardens can be visited as part of a short break at the Royal Oak Hotel. Welshpool, which costs £69.50 including two nights' dinner, B&B. Details: 01938 552217.

■ MULL, with its golden ea-gles and volcanic landscape, and Coll, with a recently established bird reserve, feature on a week's wildlife holiday with Naturetrek, which begins with a ferry trip from Oban on May 8 and costs £595. Details: 01962 733051.

JERSEY for three nights for £99 is on offer in early May from Modern Hotels. The price includes catamaran crossings from Poole or Wey-mouth. Details: 01534 35511.

■ WALKING back in time along the Avon and Severn rivers from a base at a family hotel in Tewkesbury is proposed by Compass Holidays which is offering two-night breaks with breakfast for £137. They include maps and itineraries taking in Iron Age forts, battlefields and historic buildings. Details: 01242 250642.

EUROPE

GREECE and its islands are always good value, if rather sleepy and cool at this time of year, Tony Dawe writes. Simple self-catering holidays on Rhodes are available for a week from April 21 for £119 and from April 28 for E169 with Direct Greece, including return flights from Gatwick. while Sunvil Holidays is offering a week from May 7 for £189 and a fortnight for £229 at the quiet Corfu seaside village of Maltas, also with flights from Gatwick. Details: Direct Greece, 0181-785 4000:

■ MORE adventurous times in the Aegean are promised by Explore Worldwide, with a fortnight's tour beginning on May I6 and including a hike up Mount Zeus on Naxos and a visit to Thera on Santorini. Fly to Athens and sail to several islands, with time for beach and tavernas for £615, including B&B in hotels. Details: 01252 760100.

Sunvil, 0181-568 4499.

■ MALTA moves upmarket with the opening this month of the Xara Palace Hotel in the ancient capital, Mdina. Introductory weekend breaks will be available next month from

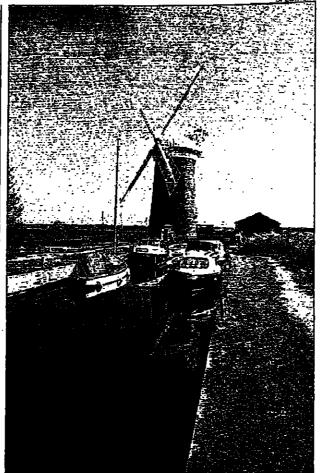
Bargains of the week: ten days exploring Nepal; a hilltop farmhouse in Sardinia; walking back in time in Tewkesbury £300, but book the Air Malta flights and hotel separately. Details: hotel, 00 356 450560; flights, 0181-785 3177.

> ■ TWO full days at the park, four nights' B&B at the main on-site hotel and a trip to Paris are included in a five-day Disneyland break by coach with Leger, which starts from pickup points in England and Wales on April 26, Price: £269. with big savings for children. Details: 01709 839839.

SEVEN NIGHTS in Sorrento at a four-star hotel overlooking the Bay of Naples are on offer from Crystal Premier Italy for some departures in May, June and July. Prices start at £409 for a week's halfboard from May 14, with a flight from Gatwick or Manchester. Details: 0181-390 5554.

■ SARDINIA seldom fea-

tures in these columns but the hilltop farmhouse overlooking the sea near Cannigione on offer from Voyages Ilena cries out for inclusion, especially be-cause it is available at a discount. A week in the property, with a pool and genuine antiques, costs £422, based on four sharing, with direct flights from London on May 13 and 20 and car hire. Details: 0171-924 4440.



Enjoy National Mills Weekend in the Norfolk Broads | lar this week although the tim-

LONG HAUL

SURF, sail and cycle holidays are a rare combination, even in the Caribbean, but they are available from Sunworld Sailing with a week's B&B at a beach hotel in the Dominican Republic costing £680. The flight leaves Gatwick on May 3. Details: 01273 626294.

SRI LANKA for a fortnight for £349 is a near unbeatable offer, but move fast to take advantage. Bookings must be made with Tradewinds by Tuesday and the flight departs Heathrow on April 26. The deal includes B&B at the Tropical Villas Hotel at Beruwela. Details: 0870-751 0004.

■ NEPAL is a different world altogether - but also available at an exceptional price. Ten days exploring Kathmandu, hilliop temples, medieval cities, Bodhnath, Patan and the Himalayan foothills near Pokhra cost from £699 with Bales Worldwide. The tour begins with a flight from Heath-row on May 23; the price includes B&B. additional meals and sightseeing. Details: 01306 876881.

STUDENT deals are popu-

ing will not be ideal for most. Usit Campus is offering Delhi and Bombay return for £299 for travel next month, plus Calcutta for £362 and Madras for £369. STA Travel is offering its best student and under-26 deals from Edinburgh with Lufthansa. New York return costs £189, Los Angeles £239 and Hong Kong £299. Flights must be purchased by May I. but can be taken until the end of June. Details: Usit Campus,

0870-240 1010; STA Travel,

0870-607 4700.

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■HOLLYWOOD for two nights, plus two days in San Francisco and three in Las Vegas, are included in 12-day touring holidays with Jetsave. The first departure is from Heathrow on May 17 and the cost is £870, a £75 saving. Details: 01342 327711.

● All prices are per person and based on two sharing a room unless otherwise stated.



See The Times on Saturday for more flight bargains and last-minute holidays

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Court of Appeal

Considering anonymity of witnesses

Regina v Saville of Newdigate (Lord) and Others, Ex parte B and Others

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Otton and Lord

(Judgment March 30) Although a decision by the chairman of a public inquiry, guarantee-ing the anonymity of witnesses whose evidence might expose them to risk to their lives or security, could not bind a future inquiry es-tablished many years later to reinvestigate the same events, it was a matter which the later inquiry tribunai was bound to take into acmunt and to give some weight to when deciding, in relation to its own procedures, whether to accord those witnesses the same protec-

The Court of Appeal so held when granting leave for, but dismissing an appeal by Lord Saville of Newdigate, Sir Edward Somers and Mr Justice Hoyt, the members of the tribunal sitting as the second Bloody Sunday Inquiry, against the decision of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice Owen and Mr Justice Blofeld) on March 16. 1999, granting the applicants, B. O. U and V, judicial review of a ruling of the tribunal on December 14. 1998, in so far as it denied them anonymity as witnesses to the in-

The four applicants, together with a lifth referred to as soldier H. fired live rounds in Londonderry on January 30, 1972, during the events referred to as "Bloody" day" in which 13 people died and at least as many more were injured, and whose anonymity had been assured when they gave evidence before the first inquiry, chaired by Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice,

In his report, Lord Widgery re-Since it was obvious that by giv-

ing evidence soldiers and police officers might increase the dangers which they, and indeed their families, have to run, I agreed that they should appear before me under

With the exception of five senior officers, none of the 40 soldiers who gave evidence before the Widgery inquiry, including 28 who had fired lived rounds, were required to disclose their names.

The current inquiry into Bloody Sunday was established by resolution of both Houses of Parliament in January 1998 and was subject to the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921.

In arriving at its ruling on anonymity, it observed:
"We do not know by whom or in

is supposed to have been given. It more than that the soldiers understood and expected their names would not be divulged in the course of proceedings before Lord

We are not aware of any reason to believe that an assurance was given that their names would never be disclosed by anyone. Accordingly, we treat these as fresh applications for the grant of anonymity that the existing de facto anonymity should be preserved."

The tribunal decided to place the obligation on those who sought anonymity to show "genuine and rea-sonable fears as to the potential consequences of disclosure of their personal details" and concluded that in most cases it would be sufficient if the identification of those at risk was restricted to the use of surnames, all other details being withheld, with alternative arrange-ments being contemplated only in the case of particularly unusual

On the application for judicial revisional Court also heard submisthose who had died and those who were injured on Bloody Sunday. and on behalf of the Ministry of Defence representing other soldiers in the same position as the applicants but as yet inidentified.

The Divisional Court concluded that the inquiry tribunal "misun-derstood the nature and extent of the anonymity granted to the appli-cants by Lord Widgery, and that this misunderstanding played a significant part in the inquiry's reasoning process when arriving at the decision under challenge".

quashed the ruling and remitted the matter for reconsideration by the tribunal. Mr Christopher Clarke, QC and Mr Alan Roxburgh for the tribu-nal; Mr John Coyle for the families of the deceased and the injured;

For that and other reasons it

Mr Edwin Glasgow, QC, Mr David Lloyd Jones and Mr Michael Books for the soldiers; Mr Ian Burnett, QC, for the Ministry of De-THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said it was important to

emphasise that tribunals of that na-

ture had a difficult task to perform.

without precise guidance as to what procedures to follow. Inevitably they knew far more about the problems into which they were inquiring than any court of supervisory jurisdiction hearing an application for judicial review

They were, moreover, entitled to

determine their own procedures

and the courts should only interfere for a very good reason. Here, it was said that the tribunal's decision could have adverse consequences which could affect the soldiers' security or threaten their lives. In those special circumstances, it was not suggested that

An objection taken to the present against the decision of the Division-al Court, but merely against part of its reasoning. As a general rule, appeals must be against decisions. see Lake v Lake ([1955] P 336).

Most appeals now required leave and one would expect courts to be slow to grant such leave mere ly in respect of faulty reasoning. A similar approach should be taken on judicial review; but there were always exceptions, of which this case was one. In the circumstances, his Lordship was satisfied that the court had jurisdiction to hear the appeal.

In reaching its decision, the tri-bunal had exhibited great care to balance the interests of the families of the deceased and other interest ed parties, as against the legitimate interests of the soldiers in not beinappropriately exposed to

mind that the tribunal's was an in-terim decision, which recognised that questions of anonymity might be reconsidered on the basis of material put before it by any of the parties. It was nevertheless a decision which would influence its future conduct of the inquiry and one which ought, if erroneous, to be cor-

Mr Glasgow contended that the issue should be treated as one of withdrawal of anonymity rather than refusal to grant it, and tha the tribunal had erred in adopting a "clean sheet" approach in which the onus was on the soldiers to make a fresh application.

Having been promised anonymity for the Widgery inquiry, they had a legitimate expectation that their anonymity would be respected and preserved thereafter.

According to the tribunal's appreach, however, their right to anonymity would have expired as soon as Lord Widgery had completed his inquiry and delivered his report. That could not be right. The Divisional Court observed that "any decision which involves the purposes of this present in quiry is on the face of it a breach of the 1972 assurance because, once their surnames are revealed, together with such information as they may now give, it will be possible to discover who appeared under which letter in 1972.

ble that if the present decision stands each applicant will now be cross-examined publicly about what he said in 1972."

happen at his own inquiry. What he said could not bind a tribunal set up 26 years later. But in deciding what was appropriate and fair

entitled to have the current tribunal take into account what had fication in 1999 would result in their identification in relation to the earlier inquiry.

It might be only one of the con-siderations which the second tribunal should take into account, but it could not be ignored; and in the reasons it gave for its ruling, the tribunal appeared not to have given the matter the appropriate weight. The Divisional Court's criticism could not be faulted and its decision must be upheld.

ered by the tribunal, it should take into account the obvious inferences to be drawn from what Lord Widgerv had said.

tice Ward gave concurring judg-

Challenging jurisdiction of foreign court

Turner v Grovit and Others Before David Donaldson, QC

Liudement February 231 In the absence of a prior exclusive iurisdiction clause in its favour, it lished principle for the courts of state A to decide preemptively whether the courts of state B have jurisdiction over a claim.

Mr David Donaldson, QC, sitting as a deputy judge in the Chan-cery Division, so held in a reserved judgment dismissing the motion of the plaintiff, Gregory Paul Turner, for orders that the defendants, Felix Fareed Ismail Grovit, Harada Ltd, a company incorporated under the law of Eire, and Changepoint SA, company incorporated

strained until judgment or further order from:

(a) taking or procuring any other person or persons to take any step in an action commenced by one or more of the defendants in the Court of First Instance, Madrid, on or about October 21, 1998;

(b) commencing or continuing. or procuring any other person to commence or continue, any further or other proceedings against the plaintiff in Spain or elsewhere other than in England and Wales, and discharging the interim injunction in the terms of (a) above granted by Mr Justice Pumfrey on December 22, 1998:

Mr David Bean, QC and Mr Andrew Tabachnik for the plaintiff; Mr Anthony Snelson for the de-

HJS LORDSHIP said that from April 10, 1990 until his resignation on February 16, 1998 the plaintiff was employed as group solicitor of the Chequepoint International group of companies to which the second and third defendants belonged. It operated bureaux de change in Europe and elsewhere.

On November 3, 1997 the plainfrom London to the third defendant, Changepoint SA, in Madrid. On December 22, 1997 the plaintiff's employment was transferred to Harada on unchanged terms and conditions

On February 26, 1998 the plaintiff sent a fax to the first defendant

March 2, 1998 commenced proceedings in the industrial tribunal in London, in which he claimed damages for unfair and/or wrongful dismiseal.

On September 10, 1998 Harada unsuccessfully challenged the jurisdiction of the employment tribunal to entertain the claim. The tribunal claimed jurisdic-

oyment Appeal Tribunal.

and/or breach of contract.

that an English court should be

It was right that Lord Widgery could only deal with what would

to the soldiers, what Lord Widgery said could not be ignored. The clean sheet approach could never from the soldiers' point of view be fairly adopted. They were

When the matter was reconsid-

Lord Justice Otton and Lord Jus-

Solicitors: Mr Philip L. Ridd; B. M. Birnberg & Co for Madden & Finucane, Belfast, McCartney & Casey, Derry, Desmond J. Dohery & Co. Derry, and Macdermott & McGurk. Derry: Treasury Solici-

the negative question of whether

the foreign forum should decline

or postpone jurisdiction under arti-

Continental Bank NA v Aeakos

Compania Naviera SA ([1994] I

WLR 588), in which the Court of Ap-

peal upheld an injunction restrain-ing further prosecution of prior pro-

Article 21 had to be overridden

where a party sought to seise a for-eign forum in breach of a contractu-

al obligation recognised as binding

Solicitors: Russell Jones & Walk-

des 21 or 22.

by article 17.

er; Dibb & Clegg.

Salesiease Ltd v Davis Justice Waller [Judgment March 30] "Indeed it seems almost inevita-

tract would be lost.

dissenting), allowing the appeal of the defendant. Robert James Davis, from the decision of District Judge Oldham in the Sheffield Distion of goods owned by Saleslease. Mr Michael E. Coles for Mr Davis; Mr Cyril Kinski for Sales-

that on September 22, 1993, Saleslease leased to Mr Campbell a

MOT testing machine. Mr Camplater repudiated the lease for the uipment, which remained on Mr Davis's premises. At the end of March 1994 there was an agreement to leave the

On April 6 Saleslease turned down an offer of £5,000 for the equipment on behalf of a prospec-

Unbeknown to Mr Davis, a Mr Gyles had sought a Saleslease facility for new MOT testing equip-ment in March. That was effective-

Saleslease denosed to an oral agreement with Mr Gyles to take the second-hand equipment at Mr Davis's premises on April 11. The

if he continued to obstruct the removal of the goods and they were unable to assign the lease they would claim losses of £12,303.74 plus VAT and damages.
On July 24 Saleslease's solicitors

22 the opportunity to assign to Mr

and irrecoverable

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss Lord Justice Schiemann and Lord

In assessing damages for the tort of conversion, a consequential loss above the market value which was special to the circumstances of the particular plaintiff but not made known to the tortleasor was too remore and therefore irrecoverable.

It followed that a plaintiff could not recover damages for the loss of a lucrative leasing contract fortui-tously available with only one particular customer since the defendant could not have foreseen that by retaining the goods the only possi-bility of entering into a leasing con-

The Court of Appeal so held by a majority (Lord Justice Schiemann trict Registry on April 18, 1996 to award damages of £8,593.84 with interest of £1,350.53 to the plaintiff. Saleslease Ltd for wrongful deten-

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said

equipment on the site hoping that Mr Davis could persuade an incoming tenant to take on the equip-

tive tenant. By April 8 Saleslease wanted £12,500.

ly turned down.

parties corresponded. Mr Davis gave notice that Saleslease could remove the equipment but on terms. Saleslease refused. Saleslease advised Mr Davis that

wrote claiming that Mr Davis had caused Saleslease severe loss by preventing them from arranging a novation of the agreement with Mr

Campbell worth about £12,500. That letter indicated that by July

Gyles had disappeared. Only on August 1, 1994 was the equipment released to Saleslease by Mr Dav-

Special loss too remote

An application for judgment un-der Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court was then pursued and Saleslease obtained judgment on February 27, 1995 for damages to be assessed

The case for Saleslease was in essence that leasing second-hand equipment of that type was hardly possible. Thus, in the result, once having retrieved the equipment they were only able to sell that equipment for £5,000.

As of April 11, 1994 they had persuaded Mr Gyles to take on the equipment on a leasing contract unceived £13.194. Due to the delay in returning the equipment Mr Gyles made different arrangements thus the deal was lost.

Saleslease suffered damages being the difference between £5,000 and £13,194.

Mr Davis's case was that there was a serious doubt as to whether there was any deal with Mr Gyles and whether Mr Gyles would have paid the full sum because he was a risk Saleslease had not previously been prepared to take on and it fact stayed in the premises to which the equipment was deliv-

ered for only one year.

Accordingly, the measure of damages should be the difference between the market value of the equipment and the sum for which it was ultimately sold. Thus damages were asserted to be no more than £250 or nominal.

That that bargain was exceptional was accepted by Saleslease. The district judge on affidavit evidence only concluded that, on the balance of probabilities, there was a contract between Saleslease and Mr Gyles and awarded in damages the whole sum on that contract less £500 for accelerated payment.

His Lordship summarised the situation First, Saleslease had the oppurtunity of a deal with Mr Gyles by chance, and that was the only deal available to them which would have produced a value of £13,194.

Second, the value otherwise was £5,000 for which Saleslease would, and ultimately did, sell the equip-Third, the ordinary expectation

of Mr Davis would be that retention might lead to a difference between what the plaintiff could dispose of the goods for as between the date of original detention and the date when the goods were handed back, or conceivably might lead to a loss of hire, if the goods could have been hired out, during the period of detention.

He could not be expected to know, unless told, that Saleslesse could not lease the second-hand equipment other than to one person who was available only by chance and the internal decision not to sell him new equipment but

to take the risk of selling second-

hand equipment to him. His Lordship reviewed the law on remoteness of damage in relation to consequential loss. In The Arpad ([1934] P 189) the majority of the Court of Appeal held that the true measure of damages was the value of the goods at the date of non-delivery disregarding circumstances peculiar to the plaintiff not made known to the defendants pri-or to the entry into the contract of

The majority judgments in The Arpad were binding on the court. In a case of wrongful detention of goods the appropriate test for recovering something above the market value would be by reference to vhether that loss could have been anticipated by the defendant.

This case was not as straightforward on its facts as The Arpad, where it was clear that the direct cause of the loss was the delay in delivery.

The question to his Lordship's mind was whether Mr Davis could reasonably have anticipated that the loss on the Campbell contract could be fully mitigated by a fur-ther lease if the equipment was returned when demanded, but could not be mitigated other than by a sale if there was delay in return.

There was nothing to put Mr Davis on notice of the fortuitous circumstances that led Mr Gyles to be available and to be the only customer available to take the equipment on lease.

Accordingly, it could not be said that Mr Davis should have reasonably anticipated that if the equipment were not handed back immediately on demand, the only possibility of entering into a leasing con-

tract would be lost. If Saleslease had been entitled to recover by reference to the contract with Mr Gyles, a very similar re-sult would have been reached. The correct question to pose would have been what chances were there of Saleslease receiving the whole of £13,194. It was doubtful whether more than £5,000 was realistic.

Saleslease had not established that any damage was suffered by the delay in returning the equip-

Lord Justice Schiemann delivered a dissenting judgment, and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Waller.

Solicitors: Dixon & Templeton, Fordingbridge; Cartwright Cur-ningham Haselgrove & Co, Ching-ford.

• Reprints of Times Law Reports in monthly parts and annual bound volumes from 1990 are available from T & T Clark Ltd, 59 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LQ (Tel: 0131 225 4703; Fax: 0131 220

Sentence includes supervision

Regina v Governor of Brixton Prison and Another, Ex

The term "sentence" in article VII(4) of the United States of America Extradition Order (S) 1976 No. 2144) referred to a term of imprisonment together with terms of a su-

pervisory order.
The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Mitchell) so held on March 16, in dismissing Robert Anthony

in re IBM's European Pat-

ent Application No 96 305

Before P. K. J. van den Berg, Chair-man, V. Di Cerbo and R. R. K. Zim-

Case T 0935/97

Budgment February 4

European Patent Court

Burke's application for a writ of habeas corpus ad subjiciendum. Mr Burke had been convicted of theft in the USA of US\$6,174, and sentenced there to serve five years of imprisonment and five years of supervised release. After serving his term of imprisonment be had

absconded to the UK. The US Government sought his extradition. LORD JUSTICE ROSE said that article III(4) and article VII(4) in Schedule 1 to the 1976 Order

should be read together. The ofvised release remained to be served. The supervisory term was

fence was an extradition crime. and four and a half years of super-

not an ancillary order, but an integral part of the sentence imposed in the United States. It was pertinent that there was no requirement for an offender to be unlawfully at large, pursuant to section 9(8)(b) of the Extradition

and Judgments Act 1968) since "over the period of the whole contract the applicant worked habitu-ally in London Harada had appealed to the Em-

It was inconsistent with the prin-ciples of the Brussels Convention

That was so whether the issue concerned the positive question of the availability of a particular ground of jurisdiction in the foreign forum, such as article 5(1), or

which, if present, might lead to the

subject-matter not being excluded under articles 52(2) and (3) of the

Such products normally com-

prised a set of instructions which,

when the program was loaded, made the hardware execute a spe-

cific procedure producing a particu-

The effect only showed in physi-

cal reality when the program was

being run. Thus the computer pro-gram product itself did not directly

disclose that effect in physical reali

ry. It only disclosed the effect when

being run and consequently only

possessed the potential to produce

That effect might also be techni-

cal, and consequently a computer

program product might possess

the potential to produce a further

technical effect and as such would

not be excluded from patentability

for distinguishing between a direct

technical effect on the one hand

and the potential to produce a tech-

nical effect, which might be consid-

ered as an indirect technical effect,

in the decision under appeal, the Board had derived the technical

character of the computer program

product from the potential techni-

cal effect the program possessed,

which effect was set free and might

reveal itself when the program was

A computer program product which, implicitly, comprised all the

features of a patentable method.

for operating a computer, for in-

stance, was therefore in principle

considered as not being excluded

from patentability under article

By analogy with the reasons in

VICOM, the board found it illogi-

cal to grant a patent for both a

method and the apparatus adapted

for carrying out the same method.

but not for the computer program

product, which comprised all the

features enabling the implementa-

tion of the method and which.

when loaded in a computer, was in-

deed able to carry out that method.

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52(2) and (3).

made to run on a computer.

In contrast to the reasons given

The Board saw no good reason

under article 52(2) and (3).

on the other hand.

Convention.

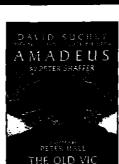
that effect.

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This week The Times offers readers the chance to buy two tickets for the price of one for some of the best shows in London. To book call 0870 842 2211

Amadeus, Old Vic. SE1, Peter Shaffer's wickedly funny play currently starring David Suchet. Offer valid until May 31 Monday-Thursday evenings at 7.30pm and matinees on Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30pm (at 3pm from April 19).

Tickets normally £32.50 each. **Blood Brothers**, Phoenix Theatre, WC2. Winner of the Olivier Best Musical Production award. Offer valid until June 30 Monday-Friday evenings at 7.45pm and matinees on Thursday at 3pm and Saturday 4pm. Tickets normally £32.50 each.

An Inspector Calls, Garrick Theatre, WC2. Winner of 19 awards, the National Theatre production of J. B. Priestley's thriller stars William Gaunt. Offer valid Monday-Thursday evenings at 7.45pm until May 15. Tickets normally £99.50 each.

The Woman in Black, Fortune Theatre, WCQ. Susan Hill's frightening ghost story, now in its tenth year. Offer valid Mon-Thurs evenings at 8pm from May 1-June 30. Tickets normally £23.50 each.



Buddy, Strand Theatre, WC2. Rock'n'roll musical of the Buddy Holly Story. Offer valid Tuesday-Thursday evenings at 8pm, Friday evenings at 8.30pm and Sunday matinees at 4pm until May 31. Tickets normally £27 each (Tues-Thurs and Sun mats) and £30 each Friday evenings.

The Reduced Shakespeare Company, Criterion Theatre, W1. The longest-running comedy in the West End includes all 37 of the Bard's plays. Offer valid for Tuesday-Friday evenings at 8pm and matinees on Thursday at 3pm, Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 4pm until June 30. Tickets normally £25 each.

There is a £2 transaction fee

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CHANGING TIMES

A computer program product claimed by itself was not excluded from patentability under article 52(2) and (3) of the European Patent Convention if, when running on or leaded into a computer, it produced or was capable of producing a further technical effect which went beyond the normal physical

interactions between the software

and the hardware on which it was

Furthermore, with regard to the

exclusions under article 52(2) and

(3) it did not make any difference whether a computer program was claimed by itself or as a record on a The Technical Board of Appeal of the European Patents Office so held in a reserved judgment when allowing the appeal of International Business Machines Corporation from the decision of the examining division of the European Patents

Office dated June 18, 1997, refusing IBM's European patent application No 96 305 851.6. The claims under appeal were di-

rected towards: (i) a computer program code stored on a computer readable medium which made the computer execute a procedure to display information within a first window, and which was responsive to obstruction of that information by a second window.

(2) a computer program element

(3) a computer program element

as claimed in (2) embodied on 2 computer readable medium and (4) a computer readable medium, having a program recorded thereon, where the program was to

achieving the same.

Dr Roger Burt, representative. THE BOARD said that the reason for the examining board's refusal was that claims 7 to 10 defining a computer program product

make the computer execute the pro-

Further technical effect of program and element, respectively, were di-rected to a computer program as such, and, therefore, concerned subject-matter excluded from parentability under article 52(2)(c) and (3) of the Convention on the Grant European Patents (Munich

> That conclusion was clearly sup-ported by the Guidelines for Exam-ination in the European Patent Of-fice Chapter C-IV, 2.3, adopted by the President of the European Patent Office in accordance with article 10(2)(a) of the European Patent ntion, with effect from June

However, the Guidelines were not binding upon the Board of Ap-peal, which was concerned only with considering what, in its view, would be the proper interpretation of the exclusion from patentability of programs for computers under article 52(2) and (3) of the Convention.
The fact that only patent applications relating to programs for com-puters as such were excluded from patentability meant that patentabil-ity might be allowed for patent ap-plications relating to programs for computers where the latter were

not considered to be programs for computers as such.
In order to establish the scope of the exclusion, it was necessary to

determine the exact meaning of the expression "as such". Within the context of the application of the Convention the technical character of an invention was generally accepted as an essential requirement for its patentability. The exclusion from patentability of programs for computers as such might be construed to mean that such programs were considered to be mere abstract creations, lacking

That meant that programs for computers had to be considered as patentable inventions when they had a technical character. The main problem for the interpreta-tion of the exclusion was therefore to define the meaning of the feature "technical character". For the purpose of interpreting

the exclusion from patentability of

de 52(2) and (3), it was assumed

that programs for computers could

not be considered as having a tech-

ograms for computers under arti-

in technical character.

nical character for the very reason that they were programs for com-That meant that physical modifi-

cations of the hardware deriving from the execution of the instruc-

tions given by programs for computers could not per se constitute the technical character required for avoiding the exclusion of those Although such modifications might be considered to be technical, they were a common feature of all those programs for computers which had been made suitable for

tinguish programs for computers with a technical character from programs for computers as such. It was thus necessary to look elsewhere for technical character in that sense. It could be found in the further effects deriving from the execution, by the hardware, of the instructions given by the com-

being run on a computer, and therefore could not be used to dis-

puter program.

Where those further effects had a technical character or where they caused the software to solve a technical problem, an invention which brought about such an effect might be considered an invention, which could, in principle, be the subject-matter of a patent.

It was only the further technical effect which mattered when consid-

ering the patentability require-

ments, and no importance should be attached to the specific further use of the system as a whole, that is, hardware plus software. The Board considered the relevant case law, including Compu-ter-related invention/VICOM (Case T 208/84) ([1987] OJ EPO 14). Of particular importance to the instant case was the fact that, according to the case law, a claim directed to the use of a computer pro-gram for the solution of a technical

idea underlying the invention might be considered to reside in the computer program itself. The claims under appeal were directed to a computer program prod-uct and had to be examined from the point of view of what might be called the "further technical effect".

problem could not be regarded as seeking protection for the program

as such within the meaning of arti-

de 52(2)(c) and (3), even if the basic

ceedings in Greece brought by the tion under article 5(1) of the Brusdefendants against the plaintiff sels Convention on Jurisdiction bank under a loan agreement could be distinguished on the basis and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters that the loan agreement in Aeakos (Schedule I to the Civil Jurisdiction contained an exclusive jurisdiction clause in favour of the English

On October 7, 1998 Changepoint commenced proceedings against the plaintiff in the Court of First Instance in Madrid, claiming sub-

asked to decide pre-emptively whether a foreign court had competence to entertain the action commenced in that court according to

the foreign court's rules of jurisdic-



Bradley rides on as Jockey Club considers options

By Alan Lee, racing correspondent

YESTERDAY, he was in the dock at Bow Street. Tomorrow, he may feel he is in the dock at Portman Square. Today, with a dash of bravado and a hint of the bizarre, Graham Bradley will return to what he does best, taking a single ride at Cheltenham with the unspoken awareness that it could be his last.

Bradley appeared before magistrates yesterday to answer a charge of conspiring to cheat - making money out of losing to order. Along with five other men accused of involvement in doping horses, he was summarily hailed to reappear on June 9 but, unlike the other five, he was not instructed to stay clear of racecourses. He has had to surrender his passport but he is free to ride on.

though perhaps only for a day. Even as the proceedings at Bow Street were concluding. the Jockey Club was convening a quorum of stewards to decide Bradley's immediate future. The jockey will appear before them tomorrow, knowing that the committee is empowered to suspend his licence until the criminal case

Bradley, 38, does not intend to hide away. That much is clear from his decision to partner Country Star in the 4.00 race today. "I want to ride on and I'm looking forward to going to Cheltenham," he said. But he is wise enough to know that his long career, distinguished both by achievement and controversy, could be terminated before he is ready. John Maxse, spokesman for

the Jockey Club, confirmed that a three-man committee will review Bradley's licence to ride. "It is not a disciplinary hearing but the stewards will consider the impact of him being charged with a serious offence against horse racing. They have wide powers."

Maxse also clarified the prospect of an internal investigation into other aspects of the police case, particularly those involving the jockeys Ray Cochrane and Dean Gallagher, who were released without charge last month. "We don't rule out further action at the end of the criminal proceedings and I would not want to be tied down as to who that might involve." he said. The Jockey Club will take

legal advice on the implications of suspending Bradley tomorrow and the jockey will be legally represented. His defence yesterday was led by the Jockeys' Association, whose secretary, Michael Caulfield. claimed it would be wrong to deprive him of his livelihood. "It is devastating that this has happened," Caulfield, who accompanied Bradley to court, said. "But the natural place for Brad to be, tomorrow and in the future, is on a horse and I do not believe that public

ball, because Bruce Grobbelaar and Hans Segers were not stopped from playing while they defended charges made against them, and I feel strongly that Graham should be allowed to go on riding." Bradley's colleagues are standing by him. Tony McCoy, the champion jockey, was distressed for his friend yesterday. Brad has been a

great help to me throughout

my career and he is one of the

most popular guys in the

veighing-room. I know we are

confidence in him will be

"There is an analogy in foot-



Free enterprise pays dividends for Gosden

BY CHRIS McGRATH

JOHN GOSDEN is finding quite enough winners on his own account without them falling into his lap, but at Newmarket yesterday he confessed that Bertolini had won the Victor Chandler European Free Handicap almost by accident. The trainer, who has made such an impressive start to the season, only decided to go for the race on Saturday morning, when learning that it had cut up sufficiently to be reopened - and for him to take a chance

with the Danzig colt's stamina. This lack of conviction found its way into the market, where Bertolini drifted from 3-1 to 5-1, but did not infect the

horse himself, who quickened better than Indiana Legend and was always holding his slightly laboured chal-lenge. "It was an afterthought," Gosden said. "We thought of him as more of a sprinter, and I still wouldn't mind dropping him back to six furlongs. He wouldn't stay a mile in a taxi."

So the Free Handicap's revival as a classic trial, thanks to Desert Prince last year, appears a fleeting one. Gos-den, however, could be going from strength to strength. He had already sustained his good form when Swan Knight, a Sadler's Wells colt, won the first division of the Wood Ditton Stakes - traditionally used to launch some de-

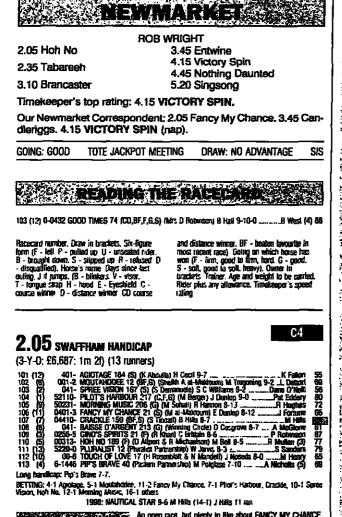
cent three-year-olds. Though Frankie

Dettori alarmed many with his lack of urgency at the finish, he prevailed in a photo. "He's the least fit horse I've run," Gosden said.

The second division fell to Sweet Emotion, while Cassandra Go followed in the hoofprints of Rebecca Sharp two years ago by winning the Geoffrey Barling Fillies' Maiden for Geoff Wrage. He will train her for the Irish 1,000 Guineas.

Leading lady on the card, however, was Shiva, whose knee problems had restricted her to one appearance - a Kempton maiden success last May before the Weatherbys Earl of Sefton Stakes. She betrayed her inexperience by hanging before picking up really well to become the first Japanese-bred group winner in Britain.

Henry Cecil, her trainer, was disappointed to reported that Ballet Master had been cast in his box and misses the Feilden Stakes today. Highlight of the card is notionally the reappearance of Mujahid, the Sagitta 2,000 Guineas favourite, in the City Index Craven Stakes. A wet forecast menaced him overnight, however, and Mutaahab has been declared effectively as a reserve in the same ownership. Angus Gold, racing manager to Hamdan al-Maktoum, said: "If it poured and the ground became very soft, there is a chance Mujahid would not run, in which case Mutaahab would."



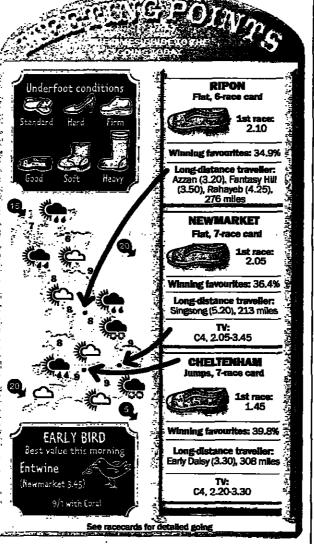
An open race, but plenty to file about FANCY MY CHANCE.
He concluded last season with a 3"-1 victory over Salford Flyer
at Yarmouth (1m), and began this, term with a 21 third to Kingston Venture at Doncaster (1m 2i). He is flaely to be sharper for the run and with not be meconventenced
by any softening in the ground (some rain forecast). Designs about and, Aglotope won a modest race at
Redear with ease(7i) but has to contend with top weight and also steps up significantly in trip.
Moutahodise's success came in minor race at Thirsk last adultion (1m) and he we well held by
Nowhere to Earl in a Haydoch kandicap on his seasonal debut (1m 2i). Plot's thatwork topical at horse
of some promise when winning a mile runsery on test going here last August but was subsequently
well beater on slower ground at Doncaster. Spree Vision has plently more on than when whining a
Newcaster master, but Cracte will not be put off by any softening in the ground. Of those borther down
the weights, Pluratist makes must appeal. He was hampered at a vital stage when eighth to Tacthul
Remark at Kempton 12 days ago and could be better than his funshing position suggests. 2.35 FEILDEN STAKES

(3-Y-0: £12,668: 1m 110yd) (9 runners) 214-5 CANTA KE BRAVE 8 (BFD.F) (Discover Woods) S Woods 8-11 ... L. Dettorf 86 1201-0 FARR RJGHT 12 (D.S) & Subant E Dunlon 8-11 ... K Fabon 93 435-2 GOLD ACADEMY 19 (D.S) & Subant E Dunlon 8-11 ... K Fabon 93 435-2 GOLD ACADEMY 19 (G.S) & Homon 8-11 ... Dame 0 Their 51-51 COLDEN SNAME 216 (D.S) (M. Charles) & Rills 6-11 ... M 1985 86 15563- HOUSEMASTER 173 (F) (H.S) (M. Charles) & Rills 6-11 ... T Claim 96 15-11 ARACKE 217 (D.S) (H. & Hakourun) M Tregoning 8-11 ... R 1985 82-11 TABARREEM 21 (D.S) (H. & Hakourun) M Tregoning 8-11 ... R 1985 93 15-11 M 1985 MANAPURI 217 (C.F) (J. Pezros) G Whagil 8-1 ... J. Quinn 96-15 15-11 ... ARACKE 217 (D.S) (H. & Manage 8-11 ... J. Quinn 96-15 15-11 ... ARACKE 218 (D.S) (H. & Manage 8-11 ... J. Quinn 96-15 ... M Roberts 93 11 Martina 9-2 Theoreth 5-1 Golden State 7-1 (Cold Academy Mick & Stranger 8-1 Lei Mickel 19-11 Martina 9-2 Theoreth 5-1 Golden State 7-1 (Cold Academy Mick & Stranger 8-1 Lei Mickel 19-11 Lei Mickel 19-1 BETTING: 3-1 Markan, 9-2 Tabarech, 5-1 Golden Snake, 7-1 Gold Academy, Mics Amarquin, 8-1 Fall Flight, 1996, BORDER ARROW 8-11 L Denon (11-4) | Balding 6 ran

1998, BORDOFF ARROW 8-11 L Center (11-4) I Bateing 6 can but his seasons debut at Kempton told us fittle. He first his action and histoled well beaten. He remains a live contender, however. Cante Ke Brave was soundly beaten at Ropton on his teturn and must improve, as must Tabareeth, successful in a Doncaster maden (1m) last time tutt with plenty more to do here. Housemaster was a creditable 81 thord of so to Commander Collins in the Racing Post Trophy (1m) last season, but preference is to GOLDEN SNAVE. He impressed when readily landing a Doncaster maden (1m) last autumn and looks the type to go on to better things this term. Markan was made knowned to the Chestam Stakes at Royal Ascrol on his debut but was all at sea on the soft ground. However, he redeemed himself on better going in a valuable race at Newbury next time (7f). He is

C4 3.10 CITY INDEX CRAVEN STAKES (Group III: 3-Y-0: £20,000: 1m) (8 runners) BETTING: 4-5 Mujahul, 4-1 Branczeler, 71-2 Mutaahab, 7-1 Compton Admiral, 74-1 Mensa, 20-1 Wallaco 33-1 Debber's Watsing, 50-1 Anschless. 1998: XAAR 8-13 O Pestier (8-11 lav) A Fabre (Fr) 6 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS H Cecil
H Cecil
J Dunlop
L Cumant
A Stewart
R Armstrong
P Cole
G Whapp
Sir M Stoute
P Hastam
R Hamman K Falls
K Falls
L Delton
Pat Eddery
J Ourn
S Samders
Dane O'Neitt
J Wesver
M Hills
O Pestion 101 121 117 33 58 72 49 77 26 167



3.45 BLUE SQUARE (SHOWCASE HANDICAP AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE) (3-Y-O: £7,772: 6f) (15 numers) 401 (12) 412- MITCHAM 188 (8F.D.F) (I Mets) T MILL 9-7. T Oxion 401 (12) 412- MITCHAM 188 (8F.D.F) (I Mets) T MILL 9-7. T Oxion 402 (3) 4213- MIRINIZ 189 (8F.D.S) (I al-Melstoom) B Hells 9-4. M 168c 403 (9) 6261- KINAN 213 (D.G. (II al-Melstoom) R Amistong 9-4. R Hells 404 (9) 14105- CURSAM 188 (D.F.G. (K.Lon.) 1 Hits 9-1. L Demon 405 (8) 210-0 SR. JACK 7 (D.G.) (Lucayan Sard) J Moseda 9-1. O Pasiler 406 (5) 4110- ENTWINE 187 (F.G.) (Sheebadds Saint) 8 Meethen 9-0. R Cockman 407 (7) 20113- ARGEAIN FLAME 282 (F.G.) (Repts Angle Cab) 6 Dunlop 8-13 M - Pat Eddard 408 (1) 652-1 CARIOLE 1986S 12 (D.G.) (Repts Angle Cab) 6 Dunlop 8-13 M - Pat Eddard 409 (4) 54100- TOP GIDER 288 (S) 07 B H Prince Faid Sainman P Cole 8-10 J Fortune 409 (4) 54100- TOP GIDER 288 (S) 07 B H Prince Faid Sainman P Cole 8-10 J Fortune 410 (15) 1040-0 CHARLESE LACY 12 (S) (Abs A Jarris) A Jarris 8-5 D Sweeney (411 (13) 2810-0 RAMAN 12 (A A Stock) 1 Clearly 6 Wheeler 8-3 S Coverno (5) 411 (14) 221-0 SEVEN SPRINGS 40 (BED) (N Coopman) B Helinstein 8-1 S Carson (6) 413 (14) 621-0 SEVEN SPRINGS 40 (BED) (N Coopman) 1 Etherseptin 8-0 A Publ (3) 415 (1) 51316-5 SOUNTS ACE 160 (F.S) (P Demn) D Stow 7-10 A Nicholes (5) Long Izandean; Sount's 242 7-9. BETTRIC: 9-2 Candengs, 6-1 Entwine, 7-1 Macham, Kinan, Munjiz, 10-1 Rassan, 12-1 Cubism, Top Order, 16-1 Sir Jack, Numeera Lad, 28-1 others.

1998: RXOJA 8-4 G Carter (14-1) T Tate 15 ran CANDLERIGGS sets a good standard on the strength of his recent Kempton success over this trip (Ransan 4th better for 15:4), Kimmena Lad and Charlere Lacy well beated) and looks to have a sound chance of following up. He is drawn in stall one when low numbers look to have had an advantage, whereas Ransan is in stall 13, Munigz was probably flattered by his second to Stravinsky at York and a leable display on his tatest run raises doubts about his attitude. Plently of others have the potential to make up into smart sprint handicappers, notably Mitcham, Kinan and Cubism, and additionally Embarrie could be a live prospect. She was brice successful over 51 last term, including in a competitive nursery tree, and should not be boubled by the step up in distance.

4.15 ALEX SCOTT MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £4,533: 71) (14 numbers)

ALFALAK (Shelich M al-Mastourn) M Channon 8-11

2 COCO DE MER 12 (Ma J Greenacre) A Janks 8-11

OEEP BLUE (Mrs B Cohen) Dr J Scargil 8-11

OEEP BLUE (Mrs B Cohen) Dr J Scargil 8-11

I PROMISE YOU (Mrs C Britain) G Britain 8-11

I PROMISE YOU (Mrs C Britain) G Britain 8-11

NOTHERS (BAUDH) M Johnston 8-11

NOTHERS (BAUDH) M Johnston 8-11

NESK FREE (Mrs P Sheen) N Limpoden 8-11

SHEED SARO (R Arolfin B Hite, 8-11

SHEED SARO (R Arolfin B Hite, 8-11

DI DI Mich J Sheep Sabo 5-1 Athais, Mathrio Devoted 8-11 one BETTING, 5-2 Coco De Mer, 4-1 Sweer Sabo, 5-1 Alfaida, Mothing Desirbed, 8-1 Love Lane, 10-1 others. 1998: OLIEENSLAND STAR 8-11 G Carter (5-4 tav) J Berry 5 ran 5.20 SPORTSLINE CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-0: £5,317: 51) (8 runners)

4.45 EBF STUNTNEY MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £4,468: 5f) (10 runners)

1998: SPEEDY JAMES 9-4 () Pester (5-6 lav) J Berry 5 ras



1998: NO CORRESPONDING RACE Titly ran on gamely when making all at Humangdon (3m 2f) last time but he tends to sulk when unable to dominate and that may prove the case here as Brackenheath next at his team this team? and Tomba (unproven over so har) also tise to horse the pace, ANOTHER NEGHT is suited by an end-to-end gallop and stayed on should be the in-form Equity's Carting 4l in what tooleed a competitive contest at Ascoc (3m) last month. He meets the runner-up on only 2lb worse terms and looks the one to best, Sweet Glow (6th), Good Lord Murphy (8th), Pring Gunner (10th) and Exultient Equination (15th) air made tittle impression in the staying handicap (3m 2f) at the Festival meeting last month but Castle Owen is a potential fly in the crimment now that he is stepped up in thip. Own Belfrann, unplaced over an inadequate trip latest, also has each-way claims.

2.55 CHELTENHAM MARES ONLY HANDICAP HURDLE (£10,796: 2m 5f 110yd) (11 runners)

BETTING: 6-4 Lady Cucket, 5-1 Flagster Therese, 13-2 Sound Appeal, 8-1 Amilge, 9-1 Cool Spring, 18-1 Halona, Jessoka, Skipcasi, 12-1 Aria, 16-1 others. 1998' NO CORRESPONDING RACE

1998' NO CORRESPONDING RACE.

Lady Cricket's presence gives this a logisided took with eight of the runners between 8th and 37th out of the handicap proper. However, whether Lady Cricket will be the chief beneficiary is debatable as she has had only a week for recover mon her emplois: at Auritee (3m) when she was a very creditable fourth to Papo Riversme (beaten about 40). It could be that SOUND APPEAL, who runs oil the correct mark, takes advantage. A strest prevaled in the first half oil lest season (she won all Kemplon, Ascott and at Chellentiam) before being sidefined by sighty, she has gradually been returning in her best this term and was far from dispassed when eleventh at the County Hurdle here last month (the inconsistent Amitga was back in 21st) when 7th "wrong". Sound Appeal has been criving out for this trip and will be ideally suited by the sepected good going. Flagstip Therese confirmed she had a bright hubre when venning as smilar race to thus at Meebury (best rath 'N Sucry 31-q), but with race oil a 25th higher mark terie. Alta, who loves to hear with hower rathe, and Sidporari are both Riceable types although they also have a to do at the weights. 3.30 DONCASTER BLOODSTOCK SALES/EBF MARES

ONLY OPEN NH FLAT FRIAL (£14,070. 2m 1) (16 runners) POPEN NH FLAT FRNAL (£14,070. 2m 11) (16 runners)

2 CHOPMS REVOLUTION 35 (Mare J Buldana) N Telson-Davie; 5-11-0 / Goldstein (7) 73

30 DAVS DESTRY 40 (A Day) J Manue; 5-11-0 — Mr D Tomer (7) 63

54 DEADLY DORS 77 (S Ney & S Ludlart) N Smith 5-11-0 — Mr D Tomer (7) 63

54 DEADLY DORS 77 (S Ney & S Ludlart) N Smith 5-11-0 — Mr D Tomer (7) 69

60 ELEANT MAUD 22 (1) (G Rev) 6 Roo 5-11-0 — S Graham (7) 57

435 GOOD JOB 23 (M Geen) C Marm 7-11-0 — R Dunwoody 69

350 GULSHAN 25 (Mrs. 1 Powell) M Weston-Downers 5-11-0 — R Dunwoody 69

350 GULSHAN 25 (Mrs. 1 Powell) M Weston-Downers 5-11-0 — R Dunwoody 69

3524 KENTFORD BUSY B 76 (D Bare) J Meditor, 5-11-0 — R Horrocks (3) 8873

43 ROMAN URFOLAT 22 (Mrs. N Halm) M Harmond 5-11-0 — R Horrocks (3) 8873

44 ROMAN URFOLAT 22 (Mrs. 1 Revenue) H Kontenton 5-11-0 — A Margitor 67

5-23 SARA BELLA 132 (Mrs. S Kardnersch) H Kontenton J Jerlevan 5-11-0 — L Myerr 34

4 TICKE THE TILLET 124 (Mrs. Skardnersch) P N Webbe 6-11-0 — J A McCurthy — 1 LOST THE PLOT 52 (S) (Konner Powersch) D Arbathon 4-10-12 — D Gallopher 81

251 MRLADY AMA 23 (S) (Mrs. J Moudi) D Micholson 4-10-12 — D Gallopher 81

262 ERLY LOSK 73 (R Cameron) R Just 4-10 — B Storey 27

27 MRS. 9-4 Lest The Plot. 4-1 Millady Ama, 6-1 Gulsbain, 8-1 Chopins Revolution, 10 1 Shuikdanie, 12-1 BETTING: 9-4 Lost The Plat, 4-1 Milady Ana, 6-1 Guisban, 6-1 Chopins Revolution, 10-1 Smillionnia, 12-1 Good Job, Early Daisy, 14-1 others.

1998: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

LOST THE PLOT was sent off a 25-1 chance for her debut at Fontieral (2m 2f) but belied those odds in syste — coming through smoothly from well off the pace to best brandy Step for though smoothly from well off the pace to best brandy Step steroy back to third. There does not look to be anything among with that form as Milady Arnat, 12 back is sith and no bester off, went on to win decisively at Ulkoceter (where Roman Hymors, Sally Lighthout and Good Job were second, that and fifth respectively) white Guistian, such at Fontwell, bester 16 her subsequently initiated a creditable eleventh in the Washerbys Changlor Bumper here last month local the Pool seems axe to improve to that white experience and enviolent Quic Guistian, who meets her on 9th better terms, should finch a fol close this time and jeckey looking indicates the in batter cancile than Choping Revolution, her stallemate. Shallcards staped promisingly on her debut at Newcastle when a staying-on second to Wymyard Darricet at Newcastle but a line through Roman Uproar, with was less than a tength back in fourth, suggests she will have to show significant Improvement.

Sara Bella was given a considerate infroduction at Hereford and should with races in time.



(£8,247: 2m 110yd) (6 runners) BETTRIG: 9-4 Buckland Lad. 7-2 Country Star, 9-2 Sublime Fellow, 5-1 Hurricane Lamp, Danies 10-1 Klogs Cherry. 1998: TEDEBROOK 8-11-13 N Williamson (f1-10 lav) K Balley 5 ran

4.35 MINSTER LOVELL NOVICES CHASE

(£6,840: 2m 5f) (7 runners)

1998: MAHLER 8-11-12 C Llewellyn (2-1) N Twiszon-Davies 5 ran

5.10 BAULKING GREEN HUNTERS CHASE

(£3,599: 3m 2i 110yd) (13 runners)

1998: STALBRIDGE BILL 8-12-0 Miss A Grachen (5-2 pt Riv) J Dulosae 10 rad

Blinkered first time

CHELTENHAM: 2.20 Good Lord Murphy, 2.55 Cool Spring RIPON: 2.45 Ambitious

SPECIALISTS

CHELTENHAM: Trainers: Miss V Willams, 10 winners from 36 namers, 27 8%; C Mann, 6 from 37, 16.2%, K Balley, 10 from 69, 14.5%, J Old, 9 from 63, 14.3%, M Ppe, 45 from 329, 13.7%, N Henderson, 13 from 104, 12.5%, R Buckler, 3 from 25, 12.0%, Miss H Knght, 8 from 68, 11.8%, Jocksys: A P McCoy, 43 winners from 179 ndes, 24.0%; N Williamson, 33 from 168, 19.8%, R Dunwoody, 25 from 178, 14.6%, M A Rizgerald, 23 from 164, 14.0%; A Maguare, 17 from 127, 13.4%, R Thomton, 6 from 45, 13.3%; C Llewelyn, 16 from 139, 11.5%; T J C Llewellyn, 16 from 139, 115%; T j Murphy, 7 from 62, 113%

RACELINE **NEWMARKET 101** 201 CHELTENHAM 102 202 103 203 G'HOUNDS 122 222 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168



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Thomas shows his potential

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

WHETHER at rugby or golf. Wales and her countrymen seem unstoppable at the moment. There were many fan-cied competitors as the McEvoy Trophy got under way yesterday and most of them were English. But the player who held the lead at the end of the first round was Ryan Thomas, a slim 17-year-

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old from Aberdare. Thomas's round of 69, two under par, was an impressive score compiled in a biting wind on a day when the course was at different times pelted with hail and speckled with snow. Occasionally, and surprisingly, the sun shone.

The McEvoy Trophy, played over 72 holes, is the premier junior event in the early part of the season, well organised by officials at Copt Heath, where Peter McEvoy played his golf and is an honorary life member. The inaugural event was staged in August 1981, a sunny time judging by the pho-lographs on the stairs leading to the first floor of the club-

These days the competition seems blighted by the weather. Never mind that it is mid-April, "if it is the McEvoy Trophy, then it must be snowing" is one of these sayings that may not have any basis in meteorological fact but seem to be borne out year after year. Although the event has been

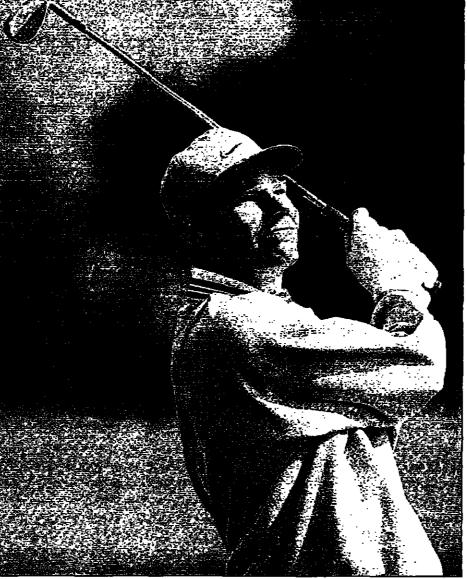
curtailed only twice - in 1992 it was played over 63 holes and in 1998 over 54 holes — it has often been affected by the weather. In 1996 frost caused a delay to the start of the first round. Last year the first round was initially put back and then cancelled.

This year the first round was 45 minutes late starting because the greens were frost-ridden and throughout the day there was a race to complete the second round.

Thomas is a member of Cymru Elite, the group of golf-ers identified as deserving spe-cial treatment by the Welsh Golf Union. which has an enviable success rate at unearthing and then fast-tracking its stars through to the top of the amateur game. Thomas, whose father is a quantity surveyor, toyed with playing soccer competitively, playing at youth team standard for Cardiff City, before turning wholeheartedly to golf.

His opening drive, hit with power and a draw into a strong wind, impressed Ken Stanley, the estimable organiser of this event for the past ten years, but by the time Thomas reached the 4th tee he had dropped one stroke on the 2nd and two on the 3rd.

At that point he must have decided enough was enough, for he did not drop another stroke and, instead, had bird-



مكذا من الأصل

David Jones, of Wearside, follows the flight of an approach during his first round of 75

ies on the 7th, 10th, 12th, 15th and 18th. He came home in 32, four under par, which set a few tongues wagging in admi-ration in the clubhouse. His round was 11 strokes better than the opening round by Lee Westwood, the winner in 1991. And look what happened to

Thomas was one stroke ahead of David Porter, from Stoneham in Hampshire, the same county as Justin Rose, the winner of this event last year. Porter was two strokes ahead of Stuart Fromant, an England boy international, Sandeep Grewal, from Heswall, who was an under-16 international but has yet to be capped at under- 18 level, and

Craig McConnell.

Harpenden Common.

Porter has the build of a rugby player and the maturity of a man. "He is 15 going on 30" was how one English golf official described him. Some maturity was needed when he used his putter four times on the 4th, once from off the green and three times on it. and thereafter he demonstrated it. He birdied the 8th, 11th

James fires the first warning shots at Faldo

FROM MEL WEBB IN SINTRA, PORTUGAL

NOT for the first time, Mark James's sobriquet of "Jesse" suited him down to the ground yesterday as he went into cold-blooded, gunsling-ing mood and drew a bead on those who might be looking to him to base his wild-card selections for the Europe Ryder Cup team on class and not

It was a warning from the Europe Ryder Cup captain to players in general — and, since he mentioned him by name, to Nick Faldo in particular — that was so thinlyveiled that it was

translucent. and the coded message We have was: "Buck up, Nick — and if you don't, forget it." "If a player like too much depth to Nick Faldo is on form, then I would

give wild want him in my team," James said cards' as he prepared for the Estoril Open. which starts at Penha Longa today. "All the players know exactly where they stand. They see all the

talent coming through and know if they are not close they' re not going to get in.

"If a player like Nick Faldo,
an established player who has shown he is very good under pressure, hits form late on and were to be in the top 16 or perhaps 20 1 might, possibly, think about going out on a limb and look that far down the list, but it's unlikely, to be honest. The temptation, if I

have enough experience, is to

stay inside the top 13 or 14.

"Any player who wants to get it is going to have to show some form. We have too much strength in depth these days to give wild cards to players on a wing and a prayer. If Nick is going to get in the side, he is going to have to play better than he is at the

It might be said that the man who leaves Faldo out of his team would have to be either brave or foolhardy, and James is no fool. Faldo has, after all, won more matches than anybody on either side

in the history of the competition — 23 wins from 46 indi-vidual matches played in a record li Ryder Cup appearances.

On the other hand, the best British player of his generation is at present 99th in the world rankings. and has not won a

regular tour event anywhere for more than two years. He had rounds of 80 and 73 in the Masters last week and missed the cut by five strokes.

It has been pretty undistin-guished stuff, to be honest. And now he knows that if he keeps sticking his head above the parapet in such a timorous fashion, he is liable to get it shot off by dead-eye James.



Reports and latest scores from Estoril Oper

TENNIS

Sampras succumbs to back injury

PETE SAMPRAS was forced out of the Barcelona Open yesterday after aggravating a back injury, depriving the event of a three-way shootout for the world No I spot. Sampras, who lost the top

position last month but quickly recovered it, strained a muscle in his lower back while playing a doubles match partnered by Tim Henman, of Great Britain. He had been due to open his singles campaign against Vince Spadea

"It was my own fault." Sampras, who expects to be out for ten days, said. "Last night when I played the doubles it was very cold and I hadn't

warmed up properly." In a setback to his preparations for the French Open. which starts on May 24, Sampras, who suffered a similar problem at the Paris indoor event last year, will also miss the tournament in Monte Carlo next week and will not play a match on clay until Rome in May. Sampras had been hoping to defend his No 1 ranking against Carlos Moya, of Spain, and Yevgeny Kafelnikov, of Russia.

Kafelnikov later lost his second-round match to Franco Squillari, of Argentina. but Moya was still in with a chance of claiming the No i spot. For Sampras, far more important than the ranking. was the chance for some highlevel practice on clay. He said this week he was determined to mount his most serious challenge for the French Open, the one grand-slam title that eludes him.

Broncos summon Branson

SINCE the London Broncos reached the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final, Richard Branson has been unusually cov about leading the team out at Wembley on May 1. That was before being tackled yester-

day by Shaun Edwards.

With Branson, the most spontaneous act can have a deliberate public relations motive, but when Edwards grabbed the microphone during a satellite link to the Caribbean with the Broncos chairman, to instruct him that the players would only accept being led out by him. Branson's

disembodied voice faltered. The head of the Virgin empire is not used to taking orders from anyone, but was told by the London captain: "We'll be massive underdogs against Leeds and this isn't a time to be indecisive. Each of us has got to play to our maximum potential, so we need you to be decisive."

Branson, also unfamiliar with accusations of shilly-shalMIGHT LENGTE By Christopher Irvine

lying, replied: "If you're willing to hold my hand on the way out, I'd be delighted to." Another conundrum still to be resolved is whether Edwards will chaperone Branson in suit or kit. His broken thumb is in a cast and doctors have advised him against playing in a record eleventh

cup final. While anxious not to be seen to muscle in on the players' big day, the club considers Branson as vital to their cause. Branson described the Broncos reaching the final as an opportunity to propel the game forward. "I find it far more entertain-

ing than any other sport in Britain. By the Broncos getting to Wembley, there's a chance to widen the audience dramatically," Branson said.

While Branson then turned his attentions to whale watching off his Necker Island retreat, the Broncos decided not to pursue special dispensation to play Anthony Seibold at Wembley because of their injury difficulties. The prop forward was signed after January 25, but the Rugby League Council is to examine

extending the cup deadline

☐ Doncaster Dragons, bottom of the Northern Ford Premiership with just one win this season, have failed to resign Vila Matautia from St Helens. The Dragons, who this week appointed Carl Sanderson as coach, wanted to take the Western Samoan forward on loan, but were told that the player still figures in the plans of Ellery Hanley.

the St Helens coach. Doncaster have made one signing with Joe Naidole, the former Huddersfield Giants forward, joining them from Hunslet Hawks.

RUGBY UNION

Board brings laws video into focus

DELEGATES to the International Rugby Board (IRB) council meetings are not accustomed to brain-storming video sessions but there will be lively debate in Buenos Aires this week after the board unveils its new laws video and a "userfriendly" lawbook version of the (David Hands writes).

In particular, because the southern hemisphere is already up in arms over the quality of Super 12 rugby that they are seeing this year.

After a climactic conclusion to the Five Nations Championship in the northern hemisphere, delegates from Britain to the fourth general meeting of the IRB, which begins today, will argue that management of the game is going well. But Leo Williams, chairman of Rugby World Cup Ltd. is already on record protesting that over-zealous referees have ruined the Super 12 and could have the same effect upon the World Cup this autumn.

There will, however, be no departure from the strict line adopted by referees this year, if only for reasons of self-inter-

Leading officials have fallen in with the requirements of the IRB charter, knowing that the board also organises the merit table of referees from which will be chosen the officials for the World Cup; since those requirements produced as good a Five Nations as this decade has seen, with three matches being decided by a single point, the north will have a glut of statistical evidence to support their argument.

SPORT

Britons made to battle

FICE HOCKEY: Great Britain remained on course for pool
B gold in the world championship, after inexplicably trailing Poland. who are without a win, 3-0 after a dreadful opening 17 minutes. A tremendous fightback sealed a 4-3 victory and moved Peter Woods's side into joint leadership of the pool with Denmark, the host nation, and Germany, the favourites. The likely outcome is that these three nations will battle it out for

the gold medal. ■ HOCKEY: Anna Bennett, who played her last international in a play-off for the bronze medal against The Netherlands in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, has proved her fitness after recovering from a serious knee injury and is set to return to the England forward line. The Slough striker is in both squads to take part in a four-nations tournament in Dublin next month and a tour to

Australia at the end of May. ■ squash: Sue Wright, England's highest-ranked women's player, has withdrawn from the WISPA world grand prix finals starting today in the Red Sea resort of Hurghada in Egypt. Cassandra Jackman, the British champion from Norfolk, and Suzanne Horner, of Yorkshire, are among the eight top players from the WISPA world tour contesting the event. Michelle Martin, the world No I from Australia, the top seed who is defending her title, is aiming for her 50th WISPA world tour title.

■ REAL TENNIS: Charlotte
Cornwallis and Alex Garside, the seeded players in action on the opening day of the British Open women's championships, scored impressive victories and look capable of upsets later in the tournament, which may prove a useful form guide to the world championships next week. Cornwallis, 26, the youngest of the world's three female professionals, was too strong for Sara Metherell on the lively Holyport court and Garside, a former world immaculate length against the less experienced Susie Falkner in recording a straight-sets victory.

RIFLE SHOOTING: Tom Rylands, of Great Britain, won the Free State Cup, the first event of the South African championships, in Bloemfontein yesterday, one of five members of the Britain team who were placed in the top ten.

RPON

ROB WRIGHT ■ 42.10 Hammer And Sickle 3.50 Romero 245 Angie Baby 4.25 lissus 5.00 JOHAYRO (nap) 3.20 Fiori **IRAW 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST**

2.10 EBF SHAROW MAIDEN STAKES ?-Y-0, £3,103, 5f) (11 runners)

incle Exact, 4-1 Hamanar And Sickle, 6-1 Ptain, Cosmena, 8-1 Coomect, le Fault, 10-1 Jembroz, 16-1 others.

45 RIPON RACECOURSE MARINA CLAIMING "AKES (£2,623, 5f) (10)

1 905- MDN BRUCE 229 (D.F) M Dodt 5-9-8 FLynch 2
2 500- VENTURE CAPITALIST 199 (F.E) D Nicholls 10-9-7
3 -050 PRENCH GRIT 73 (C.O.P) 0 6a/ks 7-9-2 - D Holland 10
4 3346 DANDE TIMES 5 (B.D) k /kay 4-9-1 C Catin (7) 1
5 000- PRCH ELOW 202 (D.F.G.S) N Brooth 6-9-0 G Duffield 6
6 000: THAT OLD FELING 51J (F) G xelty 7-9-0 . S Figuration (7) 3
7 3200 AA-YOUK-NOWNOTHENG 30 (T.D.S) Miss J Claze 3-8-11
1 Welsams 9
6 2155 AMBITROUS 14 (B) J Farshame 4-8-11
9 161 - ANGE BABY 232 (D.F.S.) J Berry 3-8-8 Intra Williams (5) 6
0 00-0 SHALARI 36 J Eyre 3-8-3 a 2155 AMBITIOUS 14 (B) J Farshawe 4-8-11 9 181- ANGE BABY 232 (D.F.S) J Berry 3-8-8 9 00-0 SHALARI 36 J Eyre 3-8-3

.ZU COCKED HAT 'COCK O'THE NORTH' VDICAP (3-Y-0: £6,595: 1m) (13)

35.

ozobergen, 9-2 Azzar, 6-1 Indian Plume, Praine Wolf, 7-1 Air Of Es-10-1 Flort, Soogy Woogy, 12-1 others

50 FARM FED CHICKEN HANDICAP :-0. £4,124: 1m 4f 60yd) (8)

on Tatra, 4-1 Sudden Squalt, 9-2 Secret Delt, 5-1 Romero, 6-1 Beau-Noble, 8-1 Famany Hill, 10-1 Kantegat, 12-1 Stolen Tear

4.25 SKELTON MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £3,745: 1m) (18)

11-4 Rahayeb, 3-1 Dissus, 6-1 Don Outoote, 13-2 Tonic, 8-7 Jet Age, 14-1 Compton Ajan, My Pleasure, 18-1 others.

5.00 NEWBY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,533: 5f) (17)

CLIMANN 10 (F) U Nicholls 6-10-0 ... Camber (7) 17
2 5-00 JUWWN 10 (D.F.) Bridgey 5-9-12 ... Claime Bryan 18 8
3 000- CRYMANOC 180 Br of 0 Nicholls 5-9-9 ... P Claime (3) 15
4 4805 SOUREE CORRIE 14 (B.D.F.G.S.) D Citicpman 7-9
5 000- JUNAYRD 14 (CD.F.G.S.) 1 Golde 6-9-0 ... R Fowley (8) 10
5 000- JUST 808 181 (D.F.G.S.) 1 Golde 6-9-0 ... R Fowley (8) 10
7 6020 NORN'S GAMB NIEE 72 (B.D.F.G.) K May 6-8-13 C Carbin (10) 4
9 60-0 WANT NYSE! 15 (T.D.F.) W Except 4-8-11 S Financiano (9) 14
9 60-0 SWAN AT WHALLEY 14 (D.G.S.) K Ryan 7-8-7 D Glemon (8) 14
10 00-0 SWAN AT WHALLEY 14 (D.G.S.) K Ryan 7-8-7 D Glemon (8) 11
10 00-0 SANS RIVALE 14 (D.G.S.) K II pic 4-8-5 ... D Young (8) 11
12 000- DISTANT KING 176 (D.F.G.) G Kelly 6-8-3 ... D Young (8) 11
3 -440 SOUND THE TRUBBET 61 (T.D.G.) R Space 7-7-11

IA 0005 MARTY AND 60 CO.

31-2 Squire Coorie, 6-7 Swan At Whalley, 8-1 Zutair, Johayro, Ivory's Grab Hire, Sans Rivale, 10-1 Distant King, Italiar, 12-1 others. COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS, S. Woods, 6 winners from 20 senters. 30,0%; J. Fanshave, 6 ligan 21, 28 6%, L. Carnani, 12 ligan 44, 27,3%, J. Davidge, 10 from 38, 26 3%; A. Javids, 3 ligan 16, 18, 6%, J. Gosden, 8 ligan 48, 16 7%, E. Weymas, 6 from 36, 16 7%. JOCKEYS: W Ryan, 11 witness from 44 rides, 25.0%, K Darley, 34 from 146, 23.3%; G Hand, 11 from 51, 21.6%, R French, 5 from 24, 20.6%, G Carter, 11 from 57, 19.3%, D Holland, 9 from 50, 18.0%, L Newton, 3 from 25, 12.0%.

Murphy suspended

TIMMY MURPHY was yesterday banned for ten days at an inquiry of the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee for his use of the whip on Juyush, pulled up behind Istabraq in the Martell Aintree Hurdle last Saturday. Murphy was found to have used his whip with excessive frequency and was suspended from April 17 to

Frankie Dettori and Tony McCoy are to meet in a challenge match sponsored by the Tote at Sandown Park on Saturday week. They will race at level weights over a mile on horses trained by Phillip Mitchell.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newmarket

Going: good
1.35 (im) 1. SWAN KNIGHT (I. Detron, 13-8 fav), 2. Manndar (J. Fortune, 5-1); 3. High Hoyland (R. Hughes, 33-1) ALSO RAN 6-1 Whispering Wind, 12 Captain Bigh 14th), Caust Dignay (6th), 15 Kluwat Bard, Who, Caust Wins, 25 Fortune Cooke, 33 Kez, Wishor, Parkside (5th) 12 ran Sh Ind, 14, 314, 14, Ind, Gosden at Neumaniel, Tote, 22-20; 51 10, 82 00, 65-00 DF, 64-20. CSF 87 05

CSF: 17 05
2.05 77) 1. SHOWBOAT (N Pollard, 9-1); 2.
7 temeratire (A Clark, 20-1); 3, Stanosti (L. Detroi, 13-2 lan), 4, Territum (M Ferrion, 33-1) ALSO RAN, 6-1 Al Muselim (Sth), 8 Harmonic Way, 10 Daylight in Dubai, Return of Arm. 11 Salay Jack, 12 Eosom Cyclone, 14 Free Opton, Kuman, 16 Daurung Lacy (8th), Emerging Market, 20 Omaha City, Tumbisweed Rodge, 25 No Extras, 33 Astrac, Dusharibe 19 ran, NR: Grannys Pat, Sh hd, 2t, ni, 14, 21, 18 Hills at Lamboum, 10te, 28 60, 21 90, 64 70, 22.30, 25.20 DF: 261.90, CSF, 2172.39 Tricast, 21, 157 53.

\$1.157.53.
2.35 (1m 110yd) 1. SHIVA (K Falon, 7-1),
2.Haami (R Hills, 100-30 lav), 3. Green
Card (Pat Eddery, 20-1) ALSO RAN 4-1
White Heart, 9-2 Handsome Ridge (8th), 10
Duck Row 11 Alboosten, Leer Spear (5th),
40 Dower House (4th), 50 Deamond White
10 ran, 114, 11, 14, sh hd, 34 H Ceol at
Newmarket, Tose, £7.70; £1.90, £1.70,
24.10 DF £10.50 CSF £24.98 24.10 (7) 1. BERTOLIMI (I. Detion, 5-1), 2. Indiana Lagend (Pat Eddery, 4-1); 3. Kalidasa (J. Fortune, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 lav Vision of Night (5th), 6 Indianered (4th), 10 Caballero (6th) 6 ran. 2-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 2. J. Gooden at Newmarks: Tole £400; 22 10, £2 50 DF; £11.00. CSF; £20 89.

220 89.

3.45 (Im 45) 1. MINNVET (T Ouern. 15-2), 2. Reinbow Ways (M Hits. 9-2), 3. Hafr (Pat Eddery, 4-1 fav). ALSO RAN-9-2 Albertich, 9 Lancer (Str), 12 Wave of Ordersem, 14 Just in Time (4th). 16 First Master, Si Lawrence, 20 Blurted, Giory of Grosvetror, 33 Becumora (6th). 40 General Assembly. 13 ran 31. 14, sh hd, nk, 41. M Bell at Newmorket Tote: 16 40; 21.50. 52.40, 51.90. DF \$16.20 CSF. 235 63. Timoast \$143.45 4.15 (71) 1, CASSANDRA GO (M Poberts

4.18 (7) 1, CASSANDRA GO (M Roberts, 7-1), 2, Musical Treat (J Forume, 2-1 lav), 1, lasinusete (K Fation, 3-1) ALSO RAN: 13-2 Remba, 10 Sutaiat (4th), 12 Gold Angel, 16 Moss Rose, 20 Desdemona, En Stence, 30 Fartisete Belle (5th), Pearl Barley (5th), 40 Mss University, 14 ran, Nk, 2, 74, 174, sh Ad, G Wingg at Naumarkel Total: \$11.00, \$2.50, \$1.30, \$21.80, DF: £19.10, CSF-£19.85.

C19.85.

4.45 (5); 1. NOM DEAR (F Muller, 11-1); 2. Possile Willow (J Fortune, 13-8 (av); 3. Indeedyedo (K Fallon, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 Seazun (60), 11-2 Lady Sarka (40), 10 Nessaeb, 25. Jannoshand (60), 33 Sm Ansm Care, Never Des Miss 9 ran: 14, 11-11, 114, 11-1 21. M Bell at Neumarkel Tote: 212.90; 22.90, 21.50, 21.50. DF: 218.20 CSF: 22.79

527 79
520 (1m) 1, SWEET EMOTION (G Carter, 9-1) 2. Cloudy Stoy (R Hills, 11-1), 3. Showy Range (W Ryen, 11-1) ALSO RAN 9-4 Iav Octane (6h), 4 Eastern Cherno, 13 Keratha, 14 Harisquin Demoe (4th), 16 Sparker (5th), 20 Woodcute Warnor, 25 Oro Street, 33 Roman Candle, 50 Kernoa Protoe 12 Ian 114, 24, 14, 11, 114 E Duchp at Newmarker, Tota 515 00 54 20, 53 01, 37 0 DF 538 90 CSF: 589.08.

Jackpoet not well food of \$47,078.42 Jackpet: not wen (pool of £47,078.42 carried forward to Newmarkst today). emanust todzy). Quadpot: £9.40 Placepot 944.50

Beverley

Going: good to tim Going: good to time
2.15 (Im 10byd) 1, Genrufine John (R
Winston, 11-21, 2, Wade (9-4 fav); 3,
Batsman (10-1) 17 ran 34, 134 J Parkes,
Tote: 93-40: 12-50, 57-20, 27-80 DF:
E11.20, CSF: E17.96.
2.45 (77 100)v1) 1, Zuital (K Darley, 2-1 fav);
2, Little Amin (8-1), 3, Open Amis (20-1); 4,
Butterscotch (20-1) 16 ran, Hd. 2, E
Dunlop, Tote: 29.0, £1.10, £2.40, £8.70,
£8.40, DF, £13.00 CSF: £20.57 Wicast
£250.10.

220. (1) 100yd) 1, River Times (K Darley, 10-1); 2, Latalomna (7-1); 3, Grangeville (3-1 law), 8 ran. 11, nk. T Essterby, Tota. 615.20; 6250. 6210, 6140 DF: 6340 CSF, 675.35 3.55 (5f) 1, Tara's Girl (D Memach, 5-2 lavi; 2, Kind Emperor (9-1), 3, Gain Time (8-1), 13 ran. 24, 4J. J. Quinn, Tote: £3.20, £1 90, £4 00, £3.40 DF: £15 30, CSF, £27.88.

27.88.
4.25 (5) 1, Sweet Haven (I Williams, 10-1); 2 Cowboys And Angels (3-1 j-fav), 3, Dasart Saferi (7-1) Xence 3-1 j-fav), 2, Cowboys And Angels (3-1 j-fav), 3, Dasart Saferi (7-1) Xence 3-1 j-fav, 12 ran, NP: Happy Times 1:21 yi M Mileaton-B-lis, Tolar: 2522 40; £4 70, £190, £2.00 DF: £48.30 CSF: £41.53.
Happy Times (12/1) was withdrawn not under orders Rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction 5p in the pound 4.55 (1m 3f £18yd) 1, HF-Jenny (T Williams, 12-1); 2, Dispoi Trump (12-1); 3, Compton Anrica (3-4 fav), 12 ran, ½, 11, W Storey, Tole £17.50; £2.90, £3.80, £2.00. DF: £136.00. CSF: £131.51 Tricast: £409.57.
5.25 (1m 1f £07yd) 1, Top Jenn (P

2409 57.

5.25 (1m 1f 207yd) 1, Top Jem (P McCabe, 5-2 lay); 2, Night Pyer (B-1); 3, Opulent (B-1), 10 ren. 29, Int. M Ryen. Toter: £2.30; £1.50, £8 10. £2.20. DF-527.60. CSF: £23.20. Titcast: £105.81.

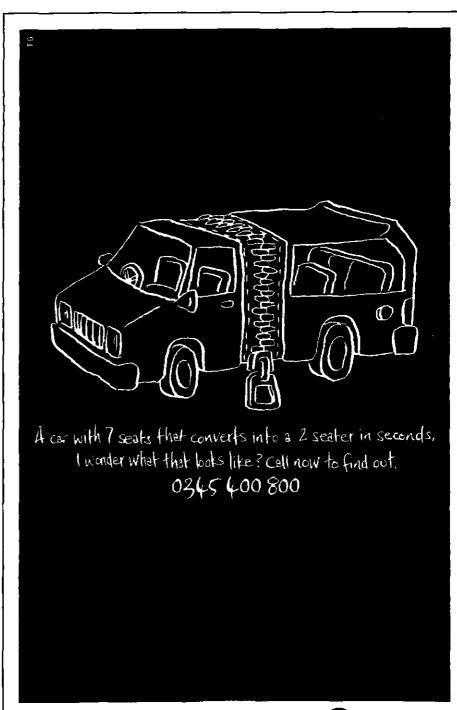
Placepot: £75.40 Quadpot: £30.10 Cheltenham

Going: good

2.20 (2m 51 ch) 1, Act to Time (F Weidey, 11-2 lad): 2, Specalice (8-1): 3, Zaitoon (9-1); 4, Reagenesque (20-1), 16 ran, NR: Cardiac Arrest 14, 44, I George, Tota 670; 51.60, 51.60, 51.60, 55.60, DF: 632.60, CSF: 642.14 Troost: £359.07. 2.55 (3m 2) 110vd chi 1, Gigi Beach (J Tizzad, 4-1 tav); 2, Moorland Hightlyer (13-2); 3, The Gopher (12-1) 10 ran, 9, 19, P Nichols, Totle 53 40; 51.30, 52 40, 53 10. DF, £18.90, CSF; £27 19, Tricast, £268.23 3.30 (2m Si 110yd hdle) 1, Connor Macleod (R Durwoody, 6-1); 2, Storm Castle (16-1); 3, Wirnott's Farroy (11-9 law), 9 ran. 7, 3 Mrs J Friman. Tols. £5 80; £1 80. £3 30. £1 10. DF: £42.20 CSF:

4.05 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, You'ne Agcodum (A P McCoy, 5-1 Lav), 2, Greycost Boy (16-1); 3, Holsom Hill (16-1); 4, Udefix (9-1) 18 fam 5; 3 M Pipe Tota: \$4.80, 51.70, £4.30, £5.50, £1.80, DF; £108.10, CSF; £68 81, Tricast £1,095 86 4.35 (2m 5/ 110yd hdle) 1, L'Opera (R Johnson, 11-2); 2, Daraydan (7-2 fav); 3, Cai My Guess (7-1) 8 ran. 1%, 1%, D Micholson. Tote: £4.20; £1.50, £1.50, £2.30 DF: £5.10 CSF: £21.18 Tnoast; £111.55

5.18 (2m 11 hdle) 1, Alignit (T J Murphy, 2-1); 2, New Brd (5-1); 3, Masamades (5-4 fav) 8 ran. 5, 31 J Old Tote: 23.00; 21-40; 51 70; 51.20 DF: 511.70; CSF: 512.46 Placepot: \$25.60 Queripot: £6.10



ZAFIRA. A work of genius.

(2) VAUXHALL

Raising the Standard

Surrey put sting in their tail

By Geoffrey Dean

THE OVAL (second day of four): Gloucestershire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 287 runs behind

WITH or without their England players. Surrey are going to take a lot of bowling out this that out to their cost yesterday when Martin Bicknell, far too capable for No II, played a series of shots that were as good as any that the top order managed. Out of a last-wicket stand of 59 in just over an hour, Bicknell cracked an un-

Up until then, it had been entirely Gloucestershire's day. After breaking the opening stand in the first over of the morning, they had taken nine wickets for 152 on a good pitch. The key to their success, apart from some indifferent batting, had been the willingness of the ball to swing.

On the first day, the coldest that Mark Alleyne said he had ever had the misfortune to field on, there was minimal swing. With a slight rise in the temperature yesterday, howev-er, the same ball swung immediately. Given that it was still cold enough for visiting bowlers to seize up, they performed creditably, notably Harvey in an admirable pre-lunch spell of three for 20 from 11 overs.

Harvey, just under 6ft and powerfully built, should continue to pick up plenty of wickets before word of his skills gets round the circuit. Being medium-fast, he is not going to unnerve too many batsmen, but he showed that he can swing the ball both ways and also bowl outswingers from wide of the crease. Ratcliffe was bowled by an inswinger to which he offered

no shot. Like most Australian support bowlers, Harvey has learned to conceal his slower ball with considerable skill. He employed it regularly, and it brought him two more wickets. First, Shahid, trying to check his shot, chipped a catch

that was athletically taken at square leg by Windows: then. Ward, seemingly set for a maiden century, was completely deceived. He had batted impressively for his 78, clearly better for his winter in Perth under the tutelage of Peter Carlstein, the motivator that Mai Loye credited for much of his success with Northamptonshire last season.

Alistair Brown needs no one to tell him what he can do, and with a typically-violent hook off Smith, he sent the first six of the season into the pristine new white seats on the popular terracing. Spectators will be glad to know that 10,000 were installed over the winter. replacing the grubby, multi-coloured jobs that necessitated many a dry cleaning bill.

From the uncertainty of 179 for five, Surrey were led towards respectability by Hol-lioake and Batty, who added 69. That it took them 32 overs underlines how responsibly they played. The coaching staff at the Oval are trying to get Hollioake to play straighter to correct a certain bottomhandedness evident from his winter in Australia. He responded by playing mainly within the 'V', except when effortlessly pulling a brace of sixes. But he is an inveterate succumbed to the shot when Ball deceived him for length.

Batty's long and plucky innings, which featured some splendid driving, was eventu-ally ended in identical fashion to that of Brown - by a late inswinger from Smith. Gary Butcher, who became the third member of his family to play for Surrey within eight months, had already fallen quickly, to the disappointment of his watching father.

Bicknell, however, then made decisive contributions, first by playing shots all round the wicket, and then by swinging the ball lavishly. Barnett, on his Gloucestershire debut, soon nicked a good one, and Hewson was bowled after failing to pick Salisbury's googly.



Hancock takes evasive action as Gary Butcher, the Surrey batsman, drives through the covers at the Oval yesterday

Toiling Langer lingers longer

By Ivo Tennant

LORD'S (second day of four): Kent, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 233 runs

RATHER than return home upon England's arrival at the airport from Sharjah, Angus Fraser nobly chose to journey to Lord's to watch his county colleagues. He had a bath and experienced cricket that was of a kind he will have participated in many a time at the start of a season. Middlesex, put in on Tuesday, made indeterminate progress in compil-

300 speciators present at any one time, including a sizeable party of schoolchildren and a smattering of women on the middle tier of the pavilion. Brave people. It was about as cold as can be at a cricket ground and the proceedings were pretty sluggish throughout the day.

Langer's half-century was a

could it have been anything but given that the conditions were so different from his last match, when the sun was on his back in Antigua and he was making 51 and 127 for

Australia in that wonderful

series against West Indies?

Now, there was some move-

ment for the medium pacers

There were, perhaps, only

"Aestex is a registered trade mark of William Hollins & Co Ltd.

on a pitch slow and soft after the rain and snow. When he was caught jab-

bing outside off stump at Thompson, who was preferred to Phillips, Langer had made 55 off 138 balls. It was not quite the highest score of the day, but it was the most significant innings, for Ramprakash had gone early, edging to first slip off Fleming and Kettleborough went in the next over, Ward holding a fine, low catch at second slip.

Whatever else it may feature. Fleming's captaincy will not lack for colour or a belief in himself. In the absence of Ealham, he brought himself on first change and in addition to removing Rampra-kash, bowled Shah with one he held back. He has not set Kent any specific targets - or at least none he is prepared to divulge — but there was

always a sense of purpose ap-

parent in the field yesterday.

Thompson, who was given few opportunities last season. finished with four wickets and Patel picked up three towards the end of the innings, even though there was noth ing for him in the pitch. Headwas expensive and did not take a wicket, but these are

GRAHAM CHADWICK / ALLSPORT

early days. Nash ensured that Middlesex had a total of sorts by the time they were all out after tea. What with Phil Edmonds taking on the chairmanship of the club and Don Bennett returning in a part-time capacity to the dressing-room that he oversaw with such distinction for so long, they will have some beady eyes on

Kent, in reply, lost Smith, the Cambridge Blue. He was leg before to an Oxford-born medium pacer who was mak-ing his first-class debut. As Cook had been out first ball earlier in the day, caught at short leg off Patel, this wicket

lacking since the retirement of

After taking strike at seven for two. Leatherdale punished

anything pitched short before he was eighth out at 141. Only

Illingworth had offered him

serious support, their stand

for the seventh wicket being

Brown, 29, who was a mem-

ber of the staff when Durham

gained first-class status seven

years ago, has now taken 389

wickets for the county. Wood, his dosest challenger, has 191.

Yesterday they enjoyed con-

trasting fortunes. Brown bagging four for six in 25 balls

after tea and Wood, though

armed with a new contract,

Durham held their catches, despite the chilling wind, from the moment that Weston

drove Betts to cover after the

start had been delayed until

1.25pm. while Tuesday's snow

failing to take a wicket.

worth 54 in 12 overs.

Eager Brown makes up for wasted time

By MICHAEL AUSTIN should add much needed ex-perience at the top of the order,

Curtis.

CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four; Durham won toss): Durham, with nine firstinnings wickets in hand, are 120 runs behind Worcester-

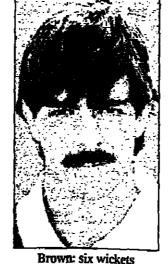
MORE snow trimmed 11 overs from play after tea yesterday but Simon Brown, the fast leftarmer, had already made a chilling impression on Worcestershire with, remarkably, his fourth five-wicket return in three first-class matches span-

ning 17 months.

Brown took six for 25 on his first appearance in the championship since the match against Leicestershire in September, 1997, when he had match figures of ten for 141. In the interim, he played at Cambridge last May, captur-ing six for 17, before undergoing a knee operation.

Without Moody and Hick, Worcestershire could be short of runs in the first part of the season, but yesterday Leatherdale responded to a predictable crisis on a challenging pitch with an innings of 85, in which he hit 14 fours from the 139 balls he faced in a stay of three hours.

Leatherdale completed 1.000 first-class runs last summer for the first time in an II-year career and his presence will be invaluable, along with that of Pollard, who



melted away. Another oddity for the scrapbook. When the greensward re-appeared, Durham seized com-mand, though the familiar cynic seated near the press box warned guardedly that everything would be put into perspective when the home team batted. They soon lost Gough, leg-before a long way forward to Sheriyar but this could not spoil Durham's day. Betts, like Brown born in the North East, made the initial

incision for them, sending back Solanki leg-before to add to his dismissal of Weston. Poliard spent a vigilant 15 overs at the crease before the middle-order, with the exception of Illingworth, crumbled away. Rhodes skied a catch to the wicketkeeper when attempting an ill-advised hook and Wilson was taken at backward short-leg. Ultimately.

to scramble beyond 150. Apart from Leatherdale, batting was something of a trial. as Durham swiftly discovered after snow showers gave way to blissful blue skies in the evening session.

Worcestershire were grateful

MCC teams very happy to fly the flag IX / hile the England party was

Thile the Eng-land party was enduring

Emirates, one of its World Cup backers, that took it everywhere but in a straight line to Sharjah. MCC was concecting an airline deal of its own. All the club's tours abroad in future will be sponsored - by British MCC shirts will now have

BA branding on them, the players will travel in firstclass and business sections and the deal, worth in excess of £500,000 over three years. will extend to the club bringing European sides to England. BA executives will have their own hospitality facilities at Lord's, including during the World Cup and. what is more, BA held the first all-women's dinner in the Long Room last week.

The importance of the sponsorship for MCC is that it is increasing considerably the number of touring parties that it sends abroad each year. Other than the new NatWest media centre, this is the biggest deal for the club in its drive to market it-self. This year, MCC sides will visit Kenya, New Zealand, France, Sweden, the United States. The Netherlands and Malta.

All pay

Sponsorship may be in short supply for the World Cup, but demand for tickets is booming. So much so that there is to be a bar on "freebies"—complimentary passes for former Test players and administrators. "If old cricketers come on to me, I shall refer them to the ticket office," Michael Browning. the event manager, said.

"The world has changed so much since the first World Cup in 1975, when everybody and their dogs could have got in. If people, distinguished. think they are entitled to free tickets now, I have to be hard and callous. The tournament is up there now with the Commonwealth Games and demand is phenomenal," he said.

Middlesex players are among those expecting free



tickets but, according to Browning, they will be unable to use the net facilities at the Nursery End during a World Cup match at Lord's let alone be given free seats. The England and Wales Cricket Board will be under-

taking limited hospitality

and only prominent politi-

cians and ambassadors can

be sure of complimentaries.

No regrets Does a retired cricketer yearn for the game at the start of the season when the blackthorn is out. April snow showers are everywhere and the linseed oil has dried up? This is a list of what Graham Cowdrey, who retired from Kent last year, will not miss:

"The motorways, the dreaded trouser press, the gateman - 'You've still got to have a ticket, mate' - fat tests, star jumps, squats, beep tests, explaining once again to the Kent physio that I was born with a heavy bone structure, wet days in Swansea, journalists still 'son of Colin', writing Sunday crowds at Trent Bridge, dropped from the team again, sore knees and bloody elbows. looking for a job in October, signing an autograph for a kid only to hear him say: I've got the fat one — who is he?"

Viva Sir Viv

Sir Vivian Richards will pick up a bat for the first time since he retired when he plays in a star-studded Bunbury match on May 23 to raise funds for his old West Indies colleague, Winston Davis, who is now a tetraplegic.

Lillee Dennis Michael Holding are also playing and the England World Cup squad will be at amptonshire. Admission will be £3 and the hope is that £20,000 will be raised.

Ladies' bar

It had to happen as soon as ladies were allowed into the pavilion at Lord's. One fernale who sought to escape the bitter cold and - in all innocence - seek refuge in the Bowlers' Bar yesterday was politely reminded by an MCC official that it was for gentlemen only. Sir Tim Rice's working party, which is examining improvements in facilities for women, is contemplating providing better signposting.

IVO TENNANT

Sir Vivian: turning out for Davis's benefit Malcolm has early

EDGBASTON (first day of four: Warwickshire won toss): Warwickshire have scored 126 for three wickets against Northamptonshire

success

THE pavilion clock had still not been adjusted to British Summer Time, which seemed entirely appropriate in view of the weather, but Neil Smith and Matthew Hayden, the new captains of Warwickshire and Northamptonshire, could not wait to start, agreeing to play in conditions which the umpires considered unfit.

Hayden, more accustomed to the heat of Queensland, must have questioned his own sanity when Smith won the loss and opted for the warmth of the dressing-room, con-demning him to more than three shivering hours at first slip. At least the efforts of Mal-colm and Taylor, on a seaming pitch, warmed him up.

A slow thaw after a sharp overnight frost had left the run-up at the Pavilion End so wet that play did not start un-til 3.15 but that did not trouble Malcolm, who pinned Wagh leg-before with his first ball. or Taylor, who had Powell

caught at short leg.
Warwickshire were in trouble when Malcolm had Penney caught behind and Piper retired with a bruised finger. But Hemp steadled the ship with an unbeaten 61 in a valuable partnership with Brown.

Lehmann leads the charge

DARREN LEHMANN hit an unbeaten 110 off 92 balls and joined Michael Bevan in a record partnership that led Australia to 288 for four in the second one-day international against West Indies in Grena-

da yesterday.

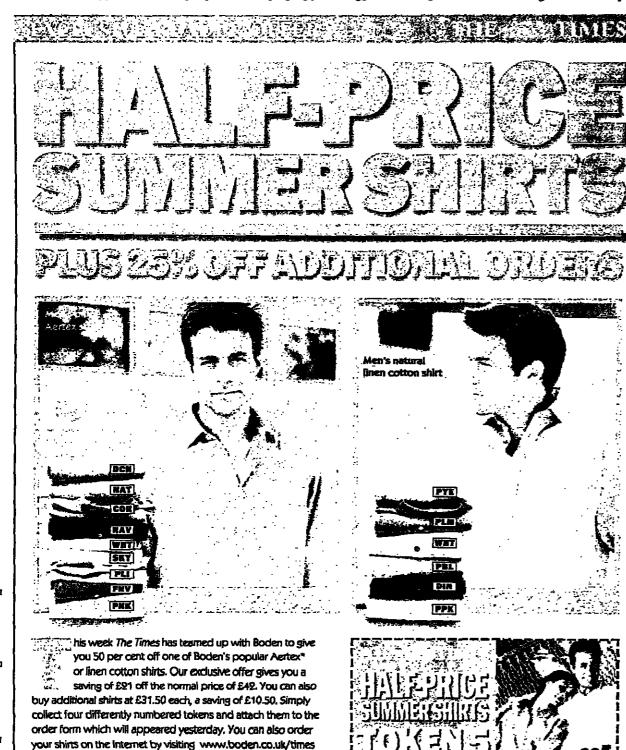
Bevan contributed 72 not out off 74 balls with six fours as the pair added an unbroken 172 for the fifth wicket off 147 balls.

The innings was Australia's highest total in 86 internationals against West Indies, beating the 286 for nine in Georgetown. Guyana, four years ago. Lehmann hit his second and highest one-day international

century which included ten boundaries and one six over mid-wicket. . Bevan took 53 balls over his fifty. Lehmann and Bevan dominated the second half of the in-

nings after the touring team slipped to 116 for four in the 26th over. AUSTRALIA

Total (4 wids, 50 overs) 289
Stee 8 P Julan, P R Reiffel S K Warre and
D W Flerrang did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS 1-30, 2-85, 3-106 4-116
BOWLING: Ambrose 10-0-47-0. Km
10-0-53-2. Hooper 10-0-66-2. Arburos
8-0-43-0. Bryan 7-0-41-0. Semmors
5-0-32-0.
WEST INDIES: S. L. Compilett. S. Chandettraul, "B.C. Larat. C. L. Hooper, 1-J.C. Adem. S. C. Wilsens, K. L.T. Arburoso, P. V. Surmons H. R. Bryan, C. E. L. Ambrose, R. D. King, Umpires. S. A. Budonor and W. Dockman.



WA129 French navy FNV Candy pink PNK Pale filac PLI Sky blue SKY White WHT MCMTCA ACLICATION WA130 Dark indigo DIN Pale blue PBL Plum PLM Pale pink PPK White WHT

8AM-8PM MONDAY-SATURDAY.

MA132 Navy NAV Dark cornflower DCN Coral COR Natural NAT White WHT

Dark indigo DIN Pale blue PBL Plum PLM Pale yellow PYE White WHT

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MARYS ARRYTH MAISI

happy Prichard the flag puts on bold front

By Thrasy Petropoulos

CHELMSFORD (second day of four): Leicestershire, with six first-innines wickets in hand. are 130 runs behind Essex

chance for new beginnings.

there finishing bottom of the theap in the county championthere season, there is only ովոր ship last season, there is only one direction in which the fortunes of Essex can go. This was their first opportunity to show a vocal membership unused to failure that the conin whise to last season, which in which in wolved a run of six defeats, was merely a blip. That it was merciy a out. the champions, who claimed six victories over the same period, will only have whetted the appetite of the faithful.

For the most part, it was the new, bold Essex that led the way, repelling a Leicestershire seam attack in the morning with confidence and vigour. At the helm was Paul Prichard, the former captain, who stepped down after enduring injury and the most wretched form last season, when he averaged only 13 in 18 innings.

From a position of some strength at 181 for three, though, the old, inhibited Essex re-emerged. Leicesterhire have the winning habit and they need far less encouragement to run through a side than that of tentative batsmen pushing out with uncertainty. Before they knew where they were, Essex found themselves 204 for eight and in some

disarray. It called for Essex to dig deep. Perhaps these are early days to be scratching around for bonus points, but the sight of Peter Such, once ridiculed for his batting limitations, swiping Matthew Brimson over mid-wicket for six and driving Brimson's replacement at the Hayes Close end, Jon Dakin, lavishly through the covers to secure a second batting point spoke of renewed hope and confidence.

In all, the last two wickets yielded 48 runs, priceless in what so far has been a low-

Dealer West

scoring contest. Encouragingly, that conviction was then carried over into the Leicestershire innings. Iain Sutcliffe and Aftab Habib were both caught behind groping and Ben Smith was bowled comprehensively by Ashley Cow-an. By the close they had reached 122 for four.

Darren Maddy, whose season last year was almost Prichardesque for its failings - 512 runs, of which 243 came in two centuries, at an average of 24 in 18 innings — at least was reassuringly positive. Showing the form of a successful winter A tour, he reached 46 before being bowled by Mark Ilott.

Prichard, though, can claim to have taken most from the day. Unbeaten on 43 overnight, he moved to his first championship half-century since the end of the 1997 season and was growing visibly in confidence before, inexplicably, stagnating when reaching the eighties.

Dropped on 82, a difficult chance spilt by James Whitaker high to his left at second slip off Dakin, he was dismissed shortly after lunch attempting to pull Michael Kasprowicz and top-edging a simple catch to Chris Lewis at mid-on. With a century in sight and Essex having lost their third wicket in seven overs to the last ball before the interval, it was an uncontrolled and disappointing end to a brave innings.

Stuart Law also played his part. His morning duel with Kasprowicz, his Queensland team-mate, was engrossing. Twice Law struck Kasprowicz for a brace of off-side boundaries. Looking for the single that would have taken him to his half-century, however, he glanced a catch to Paul Nixon down the leg side off James

Ronnie Irani, Paul Grayson and Stephen Peters followed shortly after - proof, if any were needed, that Essex remain vulnerable. They have a long way to go, but at least they are competing.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Norway's Geir Helgemo, who won the World Individual title in 1996, is one of the world's top players. In the recent Cap Gemini tournament he was the only declarer to bring home a

N-S game

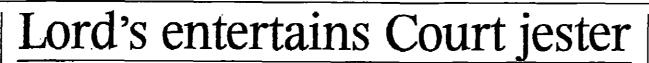
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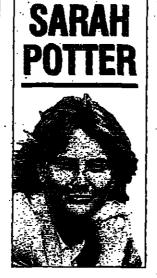
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ore than a dou hie century had to tick by on the scoreboard until the day last month when ten women were made honor-ary members of MCC. None was seen at Lord's for the start of the county championship on Tuesday, but the red membership card means that they can creak across the boards of the Long Room for any match they choose. Mostly older, all deserving, none is a revolutionary. One, though, is a maverick happy to surprise.

Jackie Court admits that she was an unexpected choice. "My name will have raised some eyebrows," she said. "One reaction I've heard is, What has she done to deserve it? but mostly people have been pleased for me. I had one letter saying, 'That's two fingers to those who wouldn't give you the captaincy'."

Better to salute her 40 England appearances. With the exception of the World Cup in 1982. Court was vice-captain for almost a decade. "That World Cup in New Zealand was a duff period," she said. "I was not flavour of the month with the selectors and I did feel victimised."

Such admissions are rare. for Court and jester go together like bat and ball. Playing the fool may have cost her the captaincy, but charisma and tactical intuition were true qualities to set her apart. "I don't regret any of my behaviour," she said. "Although there probably were a few occasions when my joking went over the top. What I do regret is not applying myself better when I was actually playing."

Court, 49, an only child, was brought up in West London and attributes much of her happy-go-lucky style to her surroundings. "I lived in

By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Michael Adams, of Great Brit-

ain, is the sole leader in the

powerful tournament at Dos Hermanas, in Spain. While

great names such as Karpov

and Anand are languishing at

the other end of the tourna-ment table, Adams is heading

towards one of the greatest suc-

cesses of his career. Scores

after six rounds are: Adams

41/2; Kramnik 4; Illescas, Topal-

ov and Gelfand 31/2: Karpov 3:

Korchnoi 252; Anand and

The main obstacles to

Adams' victory in the tourna-

ment will be his forthcoming

games against the Russians,

Vladimir Kramnik and Anatoly Karpov. In the sixth

round. Adams won a dramatic

game against Judit Polgar.

Ruy Lopez

Nc6

Be7

ď5

Nxd5

Nxe5

White: Judit Polgar

Black: Michael Adams

Dos Hermanas 1999

Мß

4 Ba4

5 0-0

9 exd5

10 Nxe5

22 0∉2

Svidler 2: Polgar 114.

Adams leads



Court "My inclusion will have raised some eyebrows". Photograph: Adrian Sherratt

she said, "and got the blame when some of the team were

15 minutes late for the curfew.

Neither was right, but when

the sponsors wanted to host a

party for the team later in the

year, I was told I couldn't go

es at Lord's, separated by 11

years. "The first time women

played there was in 1976," she

said. "I remember all the ap-

plause from the members as

Rachael [Heyboe Flint] led us

out and the tremendous recep-

tion from the people in the Tavern stand, I didn't realise

the effect us being there was

ourt, though, has

much to celebrate

about her career, not

least two appearanc-

because of my behaviour."

an Afro-Caribbean area and I think that's why I played the way I did." she said. "It was always about fun."

The male of the species most similar to Court would not, however, be a West Indian. Arjuma Ranatunga, the Sri Lanka captain, has the same cricketing DNA. His physical appearance makes him a figure of fun and reveals a atsman keener on boundaries than quick singles, yet his tactics often outmanoeuvre

the most fleet of foot. Also like Ranatunga, Court was sometimes considered too big for her boots. In the then straitened world of women's cricket - where the begging bowl was usually empty and positions of authority filled only by those who had the time - such a personality was never likely to be embraced. "I was accused of being drunk during a Test in 1979,"

Nxg4 Rae8

Nxt3+

Nh4

ණ දූූ

NI3+

Nh2

Kg8 13+

0e5+

Diagram of final position

% WIE 9

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23 hxg4 24 Re6

24 Re6 25 Bxg4 26 Rxd6

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Qh1 b4

Qd1

Krg3

Kd4

Ke3

44 Rg6+ 45 Rog4

29 K/2

Court will be more immediately at ease in the game's hallowed home than most. She took a variety of adminis-

eventually going to have."

trative jobs to accommodate --- and pay for --- her cricket, including a spell as commercial secretary for Middlesex CCC. Since then, having given up playing nine years ago, she has become a financial adviser with Allied Dunbar.

'I am happy, but it's not the same as being in sport," she said. "Even some of the boys in the office don't understand that. They say Martin O'Neill used to work for Save & Prosper and can't understand why he left to manage a football club. They think you can earn more money being a financial adviser. I tell them to get a life, because it isn't just about earning money."

Court's present sporting life centres on the golf course in Ruislip, where she plays off a handicap of 16. Is she a member? "Funnily enough," she said with a smile, "I'm joining later this year."

Sussex as fickle as the forecast

By JOHN STERN

OLD TRAFFORD (second day of four; Sussex won toss): Susex have scored 285 for five wickets against Lancashire

PREDICTIONS are a waste of time. There was to be snow in Manchester yesterday, according to the weather forecasters. Instead, there was glorious sunshine for most of the day, admittedly accompanied by Arctic temperatures. Sussex had posted only one opening stand of a hundred or more in almost two years yet their new opening partnership of Richard Montgomerie and Toby Peirce put on 136 for the first wicket. Just to add to the sense of abnormality, there was the marvellous sight of an Englishman, Chris Schofield, bowling leg spin — and turning the ball

in mid-April. Woolly hats off to Peter Marron, the Old Trafford groundsman, for producing a wicket of even bounce, and not without pace, that also encouraged the spinners after the previous day's horrid squalls. After the the ice had been removed from

the covers, the game was able to start a day and half an hour

The arrival of Montgomerie from Northamptonshire is hardly the sort of signing to precipitate a deluge of county membership applications. However, he is a young man. at 27, who feels that he deserved better from his previous county and, as a result, has a point to prove. He made only one championship halfcentury last year in 16 innings. Yesterday he and Peirce batted as if they had spent a good deal longer together at the crease than one innings in a friendly against Durham last week. They looked keenly for the quick singles early on, left the ball competently and played aggressive strokes

when the opportunity allowed. Lancashire's seamers generally bowled with too much width although Peter Martin was unfortunate to pass Montgomerie's bat on a number of occasions without reward, and also see an inside edge fly past Warren Hegg's hand for four.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

PPP Healthcare county champiouship

Durham v Worcestershire CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four, Durham won loss): Durham, with rane lissi-mings wickets in hand, are 120 runs be-hind Woroselenhim

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings W P C Weston c Daley b Betts . . . P R Pokard low b Brown V S Solaniki Ibw b Betts v S sognitul low D isetts

D A Lastherable C Daley b Brown

E J Wilson c Betts b Brown

"15 J Rhodes c Speight b Harmison.

S R Lampir c Collingwood b Harmison

R K litingworth c Speight b Brown

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-7, 3-33, 4-35, 5-77, 6-82, 7-136, 8-141, 9-145 BOWLING: Brown 15.1-6-25-6: Betts 12-2-46-2: Wood 12-3-39-0: Harmson 8-2-20-2: Gough 3-1-7-0: Collingwood 2-0-12-0

DURHAM: First Innings J J B Lewis not out ... M A Gough low b Shenyar.... Extras (lb 1)

Total (1 wid) 33
JA Daley, *D C Boon, P.D Collingwood, 11v
P Spelght, M.M. Betts, J. Wood, S.J. E. Brown
and S.J. Hammson to bat. FALL OF WICKET. 1-5 BOWLING: Sheriyar 5-0-22-1, de la Pena 4-2-7-0, Leatherdale 1-0-2-0. Bonus points: Durham 4. Umpires: J C Balderstone and G I Burgess

Essex v Leicestershire CHELMSFORD (second day of lour) Leass-tershire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 130 runs behind Essex

ESSEX: First Immgs P J Prichard c Lewis b Kasprowic D D J Robinson c Nixon b Lewis I N Flanagen Ibw b Kasprowicz S G Law c Nixon b Ormond. "R C Irani b Lewis.... A P Grayson run out Maddy. S D Paters low b Dakin S D Peters low b Dakin
H J Rollins c Nixon b Kesprowicz
A P Cowan c Sutolifle b Britison...
M C Bott low b Crmond.
PM Such not out
Edras (lb 10, w 2, nb 23)

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40, 2-45, 3-144, 4-181, 5-187, 6-187, 7-193, 8-204, 9-228.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings PA Nixon notoul..... Extras(fb.4,nb.2). .._

Total (4 wkts).. C C Lewis, J M Dakin, J Ormand, M S Kas-province and M T Brimson to ball FALL OF WICKETS 1-38, 2-63, 3-63, 4-86 BOWLING: Not: 14 1-7-34-2, Cowa 13-3-33-1, Irani 8-2-22-1, Such 6-0-29-0 Bonus ponts, Esser 2 Leics 4. Umpires: R Julian and R Paime

Middlesex v Kent LORO'S (second day of lour): Kent, with nine liest-innings wickels in hand, are 233 runs behind Middlesex

MIDDLESEX: First brings J P Hewett b Patel
R L Johnson Ibw b Patel
S J Cook c Welker b Patel
P C R Tutnell c Walker b Thompson
Extres (b 7, lb 4, nb 201..... Hewatt b Patel . . FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-48, 3-51, 4-100, 5-118, 6-137, 7-194, 8-246, 9-246

BOWLING: Headley 26-4-79-1, Thompson 23-5-61-4, Fleming 21-9-42-2; Symonds 15-3-40-0; Patel 10-3-21-3 KENT: First linnings Total (1 wid)_

A P Wells, A Symonds, M J Walker, 1S A Marsh, "M V Fleming, D W Headley, J B Thompson and M M Palel to bat FALL OF WICKET: 1-10. BOWLING Cock 7-3-11-1, Johnson 7-3-9-0, Hewit 3-3-0-0. Bonus Points: Middlesex 2, Kent 4. Umpires: J H Hams and A Clarkson

Surrey v Gloucestershire THE CVAL (second day of four) Gloucester-shire, with eight first-traings wickets in hand, are 287 runs behind Surrey SURREY: First Innings

"M A Butcher b Smith ...
I J Ward Dw b Harvey J D Rappelle b Harvey N Shahd c Windows b Harvey N Shahd c Windows b Harvey A D Brown low b Smith ... B C Holloake low b Ball .



Prichard: anchored Essex innings at Chelmsford

Cambridge in no

mood to take risks

Total...

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-131, 2-146, 3-160, 4-171, 5-179, 6-248, 7-266, 8-270, 9-283 BOWLING: Smith 32-9-93-4; Lewis 32-12-78-1; Harvey 26-10-77-3, Alleyne 20-28-44-1; Ball 14-4-38-1, Snape

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings *M W Alleyne not out . . Total (2 wide)_ M G N Windows, I J Harvey, J N Snape, 19 C Russell, M C J Ball, J Lewis and AM Smith FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-39 BOWLING: Bicknell 10-1-35-1, Tudor 6-1-14-0, Salisbury 3-2-4-1

Bonus points. Surrey 3 Gloucs 4. Umpires: B Dudiesion and J F Steele Lancashire v Sussex OLD TRAFFORD (second day of lour, Sus-sex won loss). Sussex have scored 285 for five wickets against Lancasture

SUSSEX: First Innings

Total (5 wkis)..... R S C Martin-Jenkins, 1S Humphries, M A Robinson and U B A Restud to bat. FALL OF WICKETS 1-136, 2-174, 3-209, 4-233 5-278. BOWLING: Martin 22-5-48-1. Chapple 21-4-61-1; Smethurst 19-1-58-1; Watkinson 17-5-42-1, Schofield 17-1-72-1

LANCASHERE: M Chiton, N Wood, *J P Crawley, P.C. McKeown, G.D Lloyd, M Wat-kinson, †W K Hegg, C P Schofield, G Chap-ple, P.J. Martin, M.P. Smethurst. Umpires: N A Mallender and G Sharp Warwickshire v

Northamptonshire EDGBASTON (first day of lour; Warwick-sture won loss): Warwickshire have scored 126 for three wickets against Northampton-ols

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings M A Wagh Ibw b Malcolm... M J Powell c Loye b Taylor *N M K Smith, A F Glies, G Welch, T A Mun-ton and E S H Gradins to ball. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-38, 3-59.

BOWLING. Malcolm 12-1-43-2; Taylor 14-5-27-1, Swann 7-4-6-0; Follett 5-0-30-0; Penberthy 9-4-18-0 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: "M L Hayden, R J Bailey, M B Loye, R J Warran, D J G Sales, A L Penberthy, G P Swann, †D Ripley, J P Taylor, D Follett, D E Malcolm Umpires M.J.Kitchen and A.G.T.Whitehead

University matches Oxford University v Hampshire

THE PARKS (first day of three, Hampshire won loss) Hampshire have scored 291 for three wickets agensi Oldord University

HAMPSHIRE: First Imings J P Stephenson c Louw b Hicks G W White low b Mather W S Kendall flow b Mather ... R A Smith retired hard †A N Aymes not out S Lugsden not out Extras (fib 7, nb 2) Total (3 wkts). D.A.Kenway, A.D.Mascarenhas, S.D.Udal, A.C.Morris and S.J.Renshaw to bat FALL OF WICKETS, 1-7, 2-49, 3-279 BOWLING Kino 24-10-50-0, Malher 22-6-57-2 Phan 15-2-66-0. Hicks 19-4-63-1, Byrne 16-4-48-0 OXFORD UNIVERSITY: D.J. Eadle, N.G. Pv-ts, "J.A. Claughton, B.W. Byrne, J.A.G. Fulton, J.H. Louw, 17 P.B. Barnes, D. Nino, T.C. Hicks, S.M. Khan, D.P. Market

Umpres TE Jesty and JW Lloyd Nottinghamshire v Cambridge University

TRENT BRIDGE (final day of three). Notting hamshare drew with Cambridge University CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First triangs A R Danson c Johnson b Evans I Nonammed low of Lucas
"Q J Hughes flow b Lucas
J P Pyemont flow b Lucas
G R Lovendge c Read b Dowman
R G Halsall flow b Evans
R B J Collens c Road b Evans
K D M Walker flow b Whart
C R Pimilot not out C A Sayers not out ... Extras (b 2, lb 8, w 4, nb 12) ... Total (8 wids dec) .. J P Lowe did not bat FALL OF WACKETS 1-25, 2-51, 3-80, 4-89, 5-200, 6-228, 7-252, 8-284.

BOWLING Lucas 22-11-62-3 Wherl 22-5-66-1, Evans 21-5-70-3, Galfan 7-4-14-0, Stemp 17-8-38-0, Dowman 5-0-25-1, Atzaal 2-1-2-0. Second innings

Total (no wid dec) 38
80M.ING: Gie 4-0-26-0; Alzaal 2-1-2-0,
Johnson 1-0-10-0, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: Fest Innings tor-leted

G E Welton c Hughes to Walfar. ... G E Wellon C Hugnes o wares....

"J E R Gallian st Lowe b Sayers.....

P Johnson c Collins b Walker

N A Gie noi out

M P Dowman c Collins b Walker.

†C M W Read not out

Botras (b 14, ib 2, w 2). FALL OF WICKETS: 1-59, 2-61, 3-75, 4-83, 5-181

90WLING. Halsell 6-1-20-0. 9-3-16-0: Sayers 8-2-21-2. 19-4-65-3, Loveridge 15-1-74-0

Stephenson slowly warms to his task

THE PARKS (first day of three; Hampshire won toss): Hampshire have scored 291 for three wickets against Oxford University

IT WAS a "nearly" day in Oxford. Nearly a beautiful day to watch cricket and nearly a day of beautiful cricket (Barney Spender writes). Unfortunately, a bitterly cold wind and a sluggish pitch ensured that, in spite of a century from John Stephenson, it fell marginally short on both counts.

There was a hint of sunshine towards the end of a full day's play, but the cold, it seemed, affected the bowlers. who sent down rather more full tosses and long hops than might reasonably be expected from a university attack. The honourable exception was David Mather, who

kept a tight line with his leftarm military and twice straightened the ball to have Giles White and Will Kendall leg-before. Stephenson, however, over-

came a laboured start to take full advantage. Dropped in the gully in the seventeenth over when had made just 18, he began to find the gaps and his first fifty included ten boundaries. A square drive for four off Mather, his nineteenth boundary, posted his hundred in four hours and 40 minutes.

His dismissal, a slog to long-on, ended a third wicket partnership — between three bassmen — of 230. Stephenson added 89 with Robin Smith before the Hampshire captain retired hurt with spasms in his left hand, and 141 with Adrian Aymes, who was 69 not out at the close.

TRENT BRIDGE (final day of three): Nottinghamshire drew with Cambridge University

AFTER all the hard work by the groundsmen and umpires to ensure a prompt start yesterday, this match deserved a better fate than to finish as a tame draw (Rupert Cox writes). But once Cambridge University had found a need to bat again after lunch, the outcome was never in doubt.

A target of 326 in what transpired to be 63 overs was far too stiff for Nottinghamshire, who gleaned a mere 20 batting points in last season's championship.

In the morning, the students had dithered once Greg Loveridge and Richard Halsall departed, both after fluent innings. The former

perished when he gloved a short ball from Matthew Dowman, while Halsall was trapped in front by one that nipped back. Cambridge could not raise the tempo was difficult to understand.

With Guy Welton and Usman Afzaal batting for first-team places, Nottinghamshire crept along at little more than two runs an over and got far behind the required rate on a typically slow early-season pitch. Afzaal eventually fell to a

wild slog while Jason Gallian was deftly stumped by Birks down the leg side two wickets for Chris Sayers on his debut. Paul Johnson succumbed as he vainly tried to lift the pace but there was time enough for Dowman and Noel Gie to complete handsome half-centuries.

4 10 2 CAKJ82 Lehmi'

3 S

Pass

All Pass

Contract: Six Diamonds by South. Lead: king of spades. Vorth's Four No-Trump bid howed a higher-ranking

econd suit to go with his ong clubs. That was enough persuade South to try Six Diamonds. West led the king of pades and Helgemo ruffed.

Ç Q92

Jthough there are no immeiate losers twelve tricks are ill a long way off. Keeping his options open. eclarer came to hand with a p heart. When West prouced the queen it was clear nat that suit could not be stablished. Helgemo now ossed to dummy with the ce of clubs and ruffed a

elped West to overruff so he

ub suit established declarer

by ruffing so he discarded another spade. Now declarer ruffed a losing heart in dummy, cashed the king of diamonds and played a winning club to dispose of his remaining heart loser. West could ruff but only at the cost of his trump trick.

▲ AJ83

KQ4

7 109764

45

This line would fail if the outstanding trumps were 2-2 with West having the queen, as East could ruff the fourth club. If declarer discards his losing heart East plays a heart, promoting West's queen of trumps. However, from the bidding and early play Helgemo reckoned West had seven ub. He ruffed his remainspades and one heart. If g spade and ruffed another East discards on the third ub low. It would not have club then West is 7-1-2-3. In that case declarer simply scarded a spade. With the draws trumps ending in dummy and makes all thirw played a winning heart. 2ain West could not benefit teen tricks.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

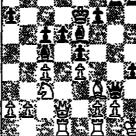
TELEARCH **VRDE** An earthworm A pattern of brickwork

PATELD To resign

Proportion of grain to chaff c. An extinct breed of hound 4 nickname

a. Top arch in a clerestory b. An absent ruler c. A Theban magistrate

TROVER a. A pirate b. Finder's keeper's Answers on page 49 sequence?

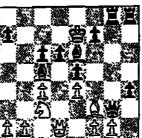


WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene Black to play. This position is

from the game Feitosa Rodrigues, Brasilia 1999. Can you see how Black stormed through on the kingside with a brilliant tactical

Solution on page 49



FOOTBALL

■ WILLEM KORSTEN, the Vitesse Arnhem midfield player, has rejected a permanent transfer to Leeds United, despite agreeing financial terms. Korsten was expected to sign a long-term deal after his loan spell ended this summer. Peter Ridsdale, the Leeds chairman, said that he was mystified by the player's decision. "It's very disappointing. It's the first example I've ever had of a player who has asked for an amount of money on a contract and then, when you offer it to him. decides not to take it," Ridsdale said.

The Football Association of Wales (FAW) remains optimistic that the final Euro 2000 qualifying match against Switzerland will be played at Ninian Park. Cardiff, in October, as originally scheduled. The plan had been put in jeopardy because the Wales rugby union team are due to play Japan in the World Cup at the city's Millennium Stadium on October 9. South Wales Constabulary have told us it wouldn't be possible to police both matches on the same day but, according to the international calendar, our match can be played on the Saturday or the Sunday

[October 10]," David Collins, e secretary-general of the FAW, said. ■ The entire Bank of Scotland Scottish Premier League programme for the final day of the season has been switched to Sunday. May 23. The fixtures, which include the potentially crucial games between Rangers and

Kilmarnock, and Dundee United and Celtic, have all been set for a 6.05pm kick-off. Alan Thompson, the Aston Villa midfield player who suffered a hamstring injury after five minutes of the match against Southampton last Saturday, is unlikely to play again this season, John Gregory, the Villa manager. said yesterday.

■ England Under-16s will play Hungary. Sweden and Slovakia in their initial group when they compete in the European championship finals in the Czech Republic later this month. England qualified with victories over Cyprus and Armenia in the qualifying group.

Keegan confident that his side will continue in the ascendant

Fulham's future is founded on optimism

By Alyson Rudd

do with his responsibility for the England side, but Kevin Keegan was careful not to sound naive on Tuesday night after Fulham secured their passage to the Nationwide League first division. Even so, Keegan's brand of realism is mighty optimistic. He refuses to call Fulham a big club -"this is a wonderful, mediumsized club", he enthuses — but there appears no doubt in his mind that the West London side will negotiate the first division almost as easily as they did the second.

In some respects, life will be simpler. Keegan has frequently countered remarks that Fulham have bought their success with the retort that the second division boasts many teams capable of lifting their game to attempt to thwart his side.

Almost every match since Mohamed Al Fayed took control at Craven Cottage nearly two years ago has been played in a cup-tie spirit, with Fulham seen as a worthy scalp.

Come August, Fulham will no longer stand out like a tiara-clad princess down the bingo hall; there will be other moneyed teams and clubs with far more inspirational traditions than those of Fulham, who dropped out of the top flight in 1968, never finish-

ing higher than tenth place. Even so, with players of the calibre found in the Fulham ranks, it would have been more difficult to fail than succeed these past nine months. The statistic reeled off by Keegan that since he took on the demands of England coach Fulham have won 11 of

PERHAPS it has something to their 12 matches and drawn the other, can be interpreted either as proof of Keegan's ability to do two jobs as well as one, or as evidence that Fulham were so well-stocked that they could win promotion while on autopilot.

Naturally, Keegan has not ruled out the acquisition of new players for a new division — he has already spent £12 mil-lion to bolster the team although he gives warning that "you can't just open a chequebook up and throw money at a club". That is certainly true: money has to be spent wisely and the planning has to be long-term.

Gasps of astonishment greeted Keegan's decision to pay £2 million to Bristol Rovers for their striker, Barry Hayles. Even Fulham supporters were aghast, and they gave Hayles a difficult time when he initialstruggled to acclimatise. It is hard to see Hayles blossoming in the first division, where-Geoff Horsfield, a former bricklayer who cost £300,000 from Halifax Town, repre-sents arguably the best investment that Al Fayed has made.

Horsfield did not shine against Gillingham on Tuesday, but then few players did. He is, though, strong and diligent with an eye for goal and after he destroyed Luton Town virtually single-handed in March, Keegan did not laugh off tongue-in-cheek suggestions that he might put Horsfield in the England squad.

There will be little experimentation next season. If the players are not quite up to it, Keegan will certainly buy in replacements: everything is



High hopes: Keegan believes his job will be done when Fulham are in the Premiership

seared to a future in the FA Carling Premiership. Al Fayed wants to turn Craven Cottage into a stadium with a capacity

People were suspicious when he came here," Keegan said. 'They thought the place might become a block of flats." Once the Cottage can hold 25,000 and is hosting Premier-ship action, that will be that, according to Keegan. The dream will go no further. "We will never be able to do what we did at Newcastle here, but we can make it special."

And that, it seems, is what keeps Keegan from dumping Fulham for England on a fulltime basis. Being the coach of the England team is just not special enough. "England comes and goes, you get 12 games a year. I enjoy working with players on a day-to-day basis." And for as long as the statistics bear him out, both the Football Association and Al Fayed can stay happy.

Bolton bring Meyer to relief to man in the stand

By Russell Kempson

Wanderers feared that something was amiss when they noticed the absence of Colin Todd, the club's manager, from the dugout during the 1-0 win against Bristol City at the Reebok Stadium on Tuesday night. There was no sign of the usually animated character urging his players on to greater effort.

They need not have worried. Todd was sitting in the upper tier of the main stand, taking a bird's-eye view of proceedings. thought I'd sit upstairs, take stock of things and try to relax a bit more," he said.

Bolton needed the victory - only their second in 11 matches — to strengthen their play-off position and keep alive their hopes of a swift return to the FA Carling Premiership, from which they were relegated last season. Eidur Gudjohnsen's seventh-minute goal proved enough to lift

them into fifth place.
"It's put a bit of daylight between us and Watford. who are seventh, and that's just what we needed." Todd said. "It's nice to get back in the winning habit, but we've now got to build on it. I had the players in for training last Sunday, we had a good chat and I hope the penny

has dropped at last."

Todd has added Derek Fazackerley to his coaching staff until the end of the season. Fazackerley has worked with Kevin Keegan at Newcastle United, Roy Hodgson at Blackburn Rovers and has again teamed up with Keegan in his part-time job

with England. Defeat for Bristol City ended their run of three successive wins. Together with Port Vale's 1-1 home draw against Bradford City, it further confuses the relegation issue. with the five clubs at the bottom now separated by two points. Bradford lost ground

SUPPORTERS of Bolton in the chase for the second automatic promotion slot behind Sunderland. They lead ipswich Town only on goals scored and have played one game more.

Walsall enhanced their chances of automatic promotion in the second division behind Fulham, with a 1-0 win against Bournemouth at Dean Court, Darren Wrack scoring in the 14th minute. It was their 12th away victory this season. "We defended well and broke when we could." Ray Graydon, the Walsail manager, said. "We work hard and we've become very difficult to beat."

Preston North End faltered in a 2-2 draw away to Wigan Athletic, although they twice recovered from a goal behind. They have won only once in six matches, trail Walsall by three points and have played a game more, but the teams meet at Deepdale this Tuesday.

In the third division, Cardiff City moved level on points with Cambridge United, the leaders, after winning 1-0 away to Southend United. Cambridge, who have two games in hand over their Welsh rivals, were surprisingly held 1-1 at home by Rochdale. Brentford also appear destined for automatic promotion after beating Chester City 3-1.



Todd: taking stock

SPORT Vision WEEKEND metro meg@

THE TIMES

CYCLING

MOKETBALL

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ATHLETICS: SOUTH AFRICAN READY TO HIT THE LONDON STREETS IN THE FORM OF HER LIFE

Meyer targets paper tigers

ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

BEFORE Elana Meyer had the chance to run against Liz McColgan on track, road or country, she raced her on paper. There was no other way. Meyer, as a South African. was banned from international athletics before 1992. She would compare the times that she ran in the isolation of her homeland with those McColgan clocked around the world.

McColgan's finest hour was one of Meyer's worst, the Scot's 10,000 metres triumph at the 1991 world championships in Tokyo. Meyer was in the stadium watching. "I hated every moment," she said yesterday. "I ran the fastest time in the world in 1991 lat 3,000 and 5,000 metres]." Meyer had two paper victories, Mc-

Colgan the gold medal.
In the Flora London Marathon on Sunday, the roles are reversed. Meyer will be running while McColgan is forced to watch. McColgan, a top-two finisher in each of the past three years, is pregnant and will join the BBC commentary



In The Times next week, a comprehensive list of all the finishers in the London Marathon

team. If Meyer wins, there is one aspect that McColgan can comment on with authority. We both were told we had career-threatening injuries. yet we both fought back to win the London Marathon," is an area she might expand on.

McColgan overcame her injury to win in 1996. That was the year that Meyer suffered hers, tearing an Achilles tendon during the Olympic marathon, "Doctors said I would be lucky if I ran a marathon again," Meyer said.

In the image of McColgan, Meyer thought she knew better than the doctors. "I never thought I would not run again," she said. "I was committed to come back and I came back stronger." Strong enough, she believes, not only to win on Sunday but to go some way towards fulfilling the prophecy made eight years

ago by Zola Budd. "Elana has the ability to run a sub 2:20 marathon." Budd said in 1991. Meyer, born in 1966, did not envy her compatriot's escape from South Africa to run for Great Britain, although she became her only serious rival in their homeland once the wanderer returned from Britain. "It was always Elana versus Zola, you get a bit tired of that," Meyer said.



While Budd was going through her traumatic experience. Mever was furthering her education and making steady progress as an athlete. She gained an honours degree in business economics at Stellenbosch University but, prior to that, attended boarding school in the farming town of Roberston. "I learned to think

for myself there," she said. Meyer grew up in the countryside, in Albertina, a small town in the south-western Cape. Running was a natural response to her environment. "In the cities, kids have so many other things to do," she said. While Budd suffered from lack of good parenting. Meyer was protected. "It was a real advantage that I was never pushed at a young age," Soon after McColgan's victory in Tokyo, South Africa was readmitted from 16 years in isolation in time for the 1992

Barcelona Olympics. Meyer inisnea runne Tulu, from Ethiopia, in the 10,000 metres, black and white Africa symbolically sharing a track and a celebration. Back in 1984, when Zola competed at the Olympics, I also qualified for South Africa [theoretically] but for another

eight years I could not compete internationally, so it was really special to run in the Ol-ympics," Meyer said. "Even though gold would have been better, emotionally it was a special achievement. Even if I win

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 86 Washington 77, Mism 90 Chicago 74, Nisw York 91 Philadelphia 72, Portland 113 Los Angeles Laisers 85, Dates 92 San Antonio 86 Mileaukee 91 Alfantia 84, Los Angeles Cippers 109 New Jersey 101: Sacramento 100 Utah 106 (OT).

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY: Men's All-England championships: Pains: First round: S Numan and A Tidby (Dorrhester) bt 1 Jenioris and B Bass (Cambridge Pain, 22-12 R Hendley and k Caustis (Fine Rivers) bt B Bell and J Trurbnek (Stanley) 24-12. D Hohnes and G Chariton (Folkestone) bt A Dewson and M Ferra Flowerlands; 32-5. S Popple and D Want (Pateroorough) bt P Hortsey and J West (Hattepoor) 25-22. J Andrews and J Goring (Essex County) bt S Button and N Wissans (Faunton Deene) 25-21. L Essex and P McCainness (Desborough, Maddenhead) bt L Jints and A tons (Leibssier) 20-15. C Young and A Hatto (Wey Valley) bt A Smith and G Moon (Avon Valley) 23-18. S Mathridsie and A Caudell (Herts Warton) bt A Spencer and P Reeve (Kingsthone) 21-10. M Ward and J Mills (South Forest) bt K Brown and T Bailey (Havarl) 25-30. J Broppe and M Effect (Acet bt P Hamson and I Danes (York) 18-17. K and R Guy (Wytondham Delli bt J Dempsey and M Freebrey (Bertham) 25-11. S Remington and K Hauchers (North Weis) bt. S Sevens and 1 Bond (Exonic) 20-19. D Lockhett and D Holi (Blackpool Borough) bt P Bastow and S Fansh (Cumbra) 22-18. S Reading and C Bryan (Barking) bt B Victiers and M Hyde Phandy (Poss) bt P Delonette and R Packham (Falesse) 25-14. J Kroz and M Avert (Pymouth Mediguert bt R Thortpool and J McCorntell (Lawson Park) 22-21 PRESTWICK: Women's world Indoor sinnies champions birs Section Ac C MoAl-

son and J McCornell (Lawson Park) 22-21
PRESTWICK Women's world indoor angles championship: Section A: C McAlster (Scot) bit k Homen (Jef) 7-3, 4-7, 7-4.
A Doggant (Ire) bit A Davies (Wales) 5-7, 7-6.
7-4. McAllister bi Davies 2-7, 7-2, 7-4, Homen ti Doggant 7-2, 7-0. Section B: M Castle No. 13, Jones (Males) 7-3, 7-1 M Letham (Scot) bit P Notan (Ire, 7-3, 7-0 Castle bi Notan 6-7, 7-6, 7-4, Letham bit J Jones 7-5, 7-2.
Section Ct S Smith (Can) bit Hartweel (SA) 7-3, 7-5, A Simon (Guen) bit A Adams (Scot) bit 7-7, 7-7, 0. Section Dt A Marran (Guen) bit M Swentetow (Isr) 3-7, 7-2, 7-4, L. Smeth (HK) bit M Jones (Wales) 7-2, 4-7, 7-2.

CYCLING

HUY, Belgiutt: Riche Wallone rice (200km): 1. M Batto: (It) 4th 52mm 48ser 2. M den Baluer (Neth) at 14ser 3. M Aris (Bel) 306. 4. O Cameron (Switz 378. 5. M Boogerd (Neth: 3.3** 6. U Botts (Ser)

3.40 TOUR OF ARAGON: First stage Liber to Benestin, 184 Sent 1 E Zabe (Sen Str 21mm 37sen 2. M Wick (Gen 3. M Cycolin (B) 4. G Megnesson (Sent) 5. J Hart (Gel 6 B Boscardin (Sent) all at same time

a gold medal in the future it training form of her life, and vill never be as rewarding as the medal in Barcelona." Since then, Meyer's career

FOR THE RECORD

has suffered interruptions through injury and marathon near-misses, although she did title and World Cup 10.000 metres in 1994. She has finished second twice and third once in the Boston Marathon and a third in Chicago. Her best time is 2hr 25min 15sec, set in her first marathon.

So what about Zola's prediction? "It is my goal to run un-der 2:20, but it is unrealistic if your best is 2:25, so my aim is to go closer to that on Sunday." Her 66:44 half-marathon victory in Tokyo in January, together with the best

nine months without injury make her the woman to beat. The withdrawal yesterday

of Fernanda Ribeiro removed another tree from her path. Ribeiro joins Catherina McKithe injury list. Record prize and bonus money is on offer for Sunday, with some \$200,000 (around £124,000) within Meyer's grasp. Long gone are the days when Meyer raced on paper. The real paper chase awaits.



Making an exhibition of marathon runners

thousands of men and women plodding their way around the miles of the Flora London Marathon this Sunday need superhuman stamina, you should see them when they stagger to pick up their

running numbers. They will be there today, at the London Arena, great herds of them, men and women, the short, the tall, the thin and the very thin, standing in line for the toughest event in town the Great London

Marathon Exhibition. As they shuffle forward clutching their Flora London Marathon bags, with their numbers and the microchips that they tape to their shoes to monitor every step, all their months of training and self-discipline will be cruelly put to the test. For they step into a strange and challenging maze of stalls, stands and screens — half Aladdin's cave, half Ideal Running Kit Exhibition.

It's stuffed with running shoes, kit. videos, books, gadgets, gels, pills and strange potions - all guaranteed to make even the most well-prepared runne feel hopelessly

inadequate. Can you really contemplate going to the start line on Sunday without a "chill-band" that refrigerates your head, a magic pain-relieving patch, or a Velcro clip to strap energy bars to your shorts? In case the weather is foul on race day, you can even get yourself a pair of waterproof socks called "Porelle drys". There is a guy jogging round and round in an inflatable paddling pool offering to let you feel his feet as proof

that they work. The best advice for any marathon runner in the days leading up to the race is: don't try anything new and don't buy anything new. Try telling that to the



padding round the shoe-packed stands. These men and women are vulnerable, ever ready to be seduced by the go-faster promises that lurk in the

At every turn there are shoes that must be faster, lighter and more comfortable than the ones that you trusted would get you past Buckingham Palace. Not only that, but they are all on special exhibition offer with irresistible discounts.

If you go off slowly, you can browse among armfuls of souvenirs — thimbles and T-shirts, tankards and teddy

'You can't start the race without your chill-band'

bears. You can arrange to have your photograph taken and blown up as a memento of your finest four hours for £35. You can get your running gait analysed, you can sign up for the Millennium Marathon in New Zealand or you can pick up an Ironman sports watch with a built-in personal organiser.

The exhibition, like the marathon itself, makes plenty of space for charity. There are London Marathon posters for Kosovo victims at £3 each, and competitors are encouraged to sport a golden ribbon in the race to show solidarity with the refugees. Get Kids Going, a charity devoted to the needs of handicapped children, encourages the runners to



No self-respecting London Marathon runner should be without a ladybird massager to warm the muscles

let off steam and support their cause by covering the hapless Captain Beany in a bath with cold baked beans straight out of the can. And if your legs are beginning to tire, with the miles covered up and down the aisles, you can get yourself a massag in aid of charity — 15 minutes for £5.

For the foot-weary, one shoe company has a team of masseurs and sports injury therapists on standby. They even have a podiatrist, a foot balance specialist, who normally works with top athletes such as Jonathan Edwards, the triple jumper. ready to cast his eye over the most battered feet in town. Those who prefer the do-it-yourself approach are encouraged to pummel their own bodies with a Ron Hill massage stick or a small wooden ladybird.

The more energetic can get their bodies wired up and tested on treadmills before renewing depleted

stores of glycogen with buckets of pasta and endless free samples of energy bars. They can, and do, preview every step of the coming ordeal on video, and anyone desperately in search of The

Winning Edge" can buy a book of that name by Alastair Aitken, who oozes enthusiasm for running and who has never yet missed a London Marathon, Like everything else, it's on

special offer, of course. Suitably inspired, they can then sign up with Sportstours International for a training camp in Lanzarote for the London Marathon next year.

After months of training, some of Sunday's would-be contestants have got incredible reserves of stamina and are quite capable of putting in four or five hours on their feet at this exhibition, drinking in the atmosphere and the free samples. Others are so seduced by it that they'll put in several guest appearances over the four days that the exhibition runs.

You can spot the ones who have been at it for hours, they look gaunt and desperately in need of a rest and a drink. But they will and shiny new kit on Sunday morning. If you think they look exhausted. remember it may not have been the race that did it, merely the hours they put in at the Great Exhibition.

As one runner said: "Last year I did four hours in the race and 51/2 at the exhibition". Now that is

JOHN BRYANT

BASKETBALL

TAXES AL

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- 37 d.

Robinson appeal thrown out

By Nicholas Harling

MAURICE ROBINSON, the 6ft 8in Derby Storm forward, has been banned for 12 months after losing his appeal for failing to provide a complete urine sample.

The decision was announced yesterday by the English Basketball Association after its appeal panel had met with representatives of Robinson's club. The second six months of the ban will be suspended.

A product of Florida State University and Oklahoma State University, both of which he represented in the early Nineties, Robinson, 25, was tested by Sports Council officials after the Uni-ball Trophy final against Manchester Giants last month. After producing only 25mm of the required 75mm. Robinson walked off, contravening the anti-doping regulations.

Robinson's ban adds to a wretched season for the Storm. Once the only realistic challengers to Sheffield Sharks and the Giants, the Storm fell away to finish sixth. Twice in his first season with the club Bob Donewald. their coach, received two-

game bans for his mishehaviour but the real low point came in January when the Storm's Budweiser League fixture away to Chester was abandoned after 28 seconds because of brawling.

Rico Alderson was banned until the end of the season for his part in the incident while Yorick Williams received a seven-game ban.

CYCLING

Bartoli

world No l, secured an outstanding victory in the Belgian Classic Flèche Wallonne yesterday, overcoming Martin Den Bakker, his long-time breakaway companion, and the freezing rain sweeping across the Ardennes.

toli said, "but it was a great race. It was the most spectacular win of my career, because of the weather and the distance of the breakaway." The Italian attacked 80 kilo-

a late pursuit from Michael the "Walloon Arrow".

Bartoli, twice a winner of this weekend's Liège-Bas-Great Britain, seventh and

Powerful hangs on

By JEREMY WHITTLE

metres from the finish of the hilly 200-kilometre race, with Den Bakker, of Holland, and Oscar Camenzind, of Switzerland. Camenzind dropped back to leave Bartoli and Den Bakker to fight it out. Laurent Jalabert, of France.

togne-Liège race, is now the favourite for what is the oldest one-day classic on the European calendar. Hanka Kupfernagel, of Germany, won the women's race with Yvonne Macgregor and Caroline Alexander, both of

BAŞEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreel 4 Milwau-lee 8; Pitrsburgh 2 St Louis 4, Artoona 7 Los Angeles 6 (16 ms.). San Francisco 3 Houston 7 AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 6 Chicago White Sox 0, Turono 5 Tampa Bay 8 New York Yarkess 6 Baltmore 3, Caldand 3 Angheim 2, Seattle 6 Texas 15

MICHELE BARTOLI, the

"It was a horrible day," Bar-

making his first appearance in a Société du Tour de France-promoted event since last July when he led the walk-out of Spanish teams from the Tour de France, was unable to respond. There was Boogerd, of Holland, but Bartoli's power over the final climb ensured his first win in

tenth respectively.

FOOTBALL

Tuesday's late results Tuesday's late results

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division:
Bonon I Bristol City 0, Bury 2 Sundertand 5;
Grimsby 1 OPR 0, Port Vale 1 Bradford 1,
West Brom 1 Swindon 1 Second division:
Blackpool 0 Burnley 2 Bournamoutin 0 Walsall 1, Fulham 3 Gillingham 0, Lincoln City 2
Reading 2, Macclesfield 1 Chesterfield 0;
Northampson 2 York 2, Norths County 1 Wrenham 1, Olicham 2 Bristol Rovers 1, Wigen 2
Presson 2. Third division: Cambridge Util
1 Rochdale 1, Brighton 1 Shewisbury 0, Carlisse 0 Hull 0, Chester 1 Brentond 3 Exeler 3
Rotherham 0; Leyton Cremt 4 Phymouth 3;
Mansfield 0 Hatilax, 1; Scurithorpe 1 Peterboxough 1, Southernd 0 Cardill 1, Swanses 1 Harriepool 0, Torquay 1 Barnet 1
NATIONWIDE CONFERIENCE: Chetenham 1 Kingstonan 0; Hayes 1 Hedneslord 0; Rushden and Diamonds 1 Yeovil 2, Telord 1 Southport 0.

nam 1 Kingstonan C. Hayes 1 Hedneslord C. Rushden and Diamonds 1 Yeovil 2, Tel-ford 1 Southport 0.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Colayn 8ay 2 Worksop 2. Legh RM 0 Bamber Bridge 1. Manne 1 Runcom 4: Spernymoor 1 Garsborough 1: Whitby 4 Indide 0: Wirdsford 2 Accomption Stanley 2: Pirat division: Droyladen 2 Gretna 0, Eastwood Town 1 Farsley Celtre 1, Lincoln 1 Whitey Bay 0, Trafford 1 Witton 1 League Cupt Seaul-finales: Blyth Spattans 0 Gurseley 2: Stalybridge Celtr 1 Hudonals 1

DR MARTHENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Graniham 1 Hastings 2, Gresley 1
Rotinvell 3: Halescoven 4 Hession 1. King's Lymn 0 Amerstone 0 Middland division: Cinderlord 6 Biowaich 1. Clevedon 0 Hindidey 1, Weston-super-Mailer 1 Solfiul Brough 1
Southern division: Ashford 4 Brackley 1. Crencester 1 Yate 1; Hevent and Waterlooville 0 Chelmsford 0. Margate 1 Fleet 2, Neuport 16W 2 Andorse 0, Raunds 3 Colby 1. Tonbridge Angels 0 Winney 2.

RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barshold 1, Waston and Hersham 2
Basingstoke 1. Carshalton 1 Hendon 3. First division: Crences 1 Yate 1; Legion Pennson 3 Madenhead 1; Whiteleafe 1 Yeading 3. Second division: Barshed 1 Tooling and Michaen 1, Edymare 2. Abroglon Town 1, Hertford 0 Wolungham 1. Horsham 1 Wwenhoo 3. Northwood 3 Hungertord 1, Theme 3 Hendow 0; Windsor and Econ 2 Legiston 1, Withem 2 Met Police 2 Third divisions: Carshalton 4. Hornchurch 3 Derlong 0.

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Stoffin

Comman Cassas 3 Tabury 4. Homenurer 3 Destroy 0.

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Stath round: Notinghem Forest 2 Newcastle 3 GRIBERT LEAGUE CUP: Semi-fine): Ben-ry 3 Inter Cable-Tal 1 LEAGUE OF WALES: Committee Town 1 Ann Libo 1: Total Network Solutions 1 Conny 4. IRISH LEAGUE: Coca-Cola Cup: Semi-finalis: Cultionable 1 Linheld 2: Glentonan 1 Cannok 0

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Detaston 1 Twicele 0, Ducley Town 4 Etingshell 0, Kington 5 Gomel 0. FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier HAITO NATIONAL Extended Hamman division: Fron Herps 4 Shennock 1
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Bamungham 1 Asion Vila 3 Liverpool 3
Leads 2, Manchester Uto 0 Leicester 2 First division: Covenny 3 Shelfied Wed 0
COURAGE COMBINED COUNTESS
LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 4 AFC Washington 0 Astron 2 Cobnem 2 Reedne 3 Coratech 1 ne 3 Cranlegh 1 NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: North Famby: 1 Brog 2
NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Manie Road 1 Glossop North End 2
FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Bradiat 0 Transver 0

GOLF

FATHER AND SONS FOURSOMES West HBL Second round: DH and A Green haigh (Royal Mid Surrey) bt J G and R Sie-vers (Royal Worfington) 2 holes. D and S His cooks (Banstead Downs) bt I H F and G Find cocks (Barsstead Downs) bt J.H.F. and G.Findlay (Acting)confloyed Blackheath) 2 and 1, C.C. and J. Harridge (Cowdray: Fark/Worplesdon) bt J.C. and P. Murphy O'Cornor (Denham) 3 and 2, R.W. and J. Atloe (Worplesdon) wo J.C. and D.Collins (Royel Mid Surrey); J. and D. Niven (Newbury) br D.R.A. and A.Whaatland (Belchworth Park); 2 and 1, G.N. and M. Bath-Rawden (Haywands Heath-West HB) bt R.J. and C.Coombes (Walton Heath) bt J. and C.Coombes (Walton Heath) bt J. and A. Coffey (Fantion) bt H.A. and T. Mote (West Sussey) at 19th; J. and T. Hubberd (Burhill) bt R.A. and I. Wörter (Hadley Wood) 4 and 3, R.E. and K. Bosall (Blackmorp) bt B. and M. Bosall (Blackmorp) bt B. and M. Sharp (Seeland-Willows Run) 2 holes; 4 and 3, R W and M Escon Dew (water)
4 and 2, R E and k Boxall (Backmoor) b B
and M Sharp (SeelandWillows Run) 2 holes.
D J and A Mills (West Hill) bt A H and R
Evans (Dutwich/Royal Conque Ports) 2 and 1:
JJ and J Tarbuck (Coombe Hill) bt P G and
D Sechen (Woking) at 19th R J and J Levelle (Berishrer) bt P G and S Smith (Surbton) 1 hole, P E and G Wirkworth (Surnngdale) bt GE and A Tosdevin (Prinner Hill)
Longolidory 2 and 1, GA and R Gray (Royal
Wortington) bt B E and M Joseph (Germorgeneinte) 3 and 2: I H and C Dyce (Settron
Watder/Foothills) bt A G and I Barter (SandHill) bt R J and J Ruddell (Walton Heath) 5
and 4, W H B and A Kold (Wentworth/Tracy
Park) bt K R and G Ross (Royal Eastbourne/
East Susses) 3 and 2: S J and J Tedrake
(Worplesdon) bt L C and S Globistone (Durream Forest) 19th; R W and J Kreifing (Rye/
Sunningdale) bt A S and J Cronk (Walton
Heath) 3 and 2: A E and I Dakes (Hunstanton/Denham) bt R s and A Cox (Burnham
Beechas) 6 and 5; P J R and A Balfurst
Hankley Common) bt B M and B Corte
(Holyel 1 hole; P B F and S Blown (Royal
North Devon/Saunton) at 19th; R L and G Smith
(Crowborough) bt D I and D Stork (Royal
North Devon) bt D I and D Stork (Royal
North Devon) bt D I and D Stork (Royal
North Devon) 2 and 1. A Sand J Loyd (Royal
North Devon) 2 and 1. A Sand J Loyd (Royal
North Devon) 2 and 3. P E and D Story (Mullion/
Liphon) to D R and M Badrer (MorRoyal St George's) 4 and 3; R C W and N
Stokes (Hayling/Romford) bt D C and J Doon (Newt/Hoyal Ashdown) 2 and 1; A T and J
Francs (Bramiley) bt P L and S Osborn (Lindrick/Royal Wirthledon) 2 holes

EMBLAND SQUADS: For four nations tournament (in Dubin, May 7-9): A Bennett, K Brown (captain), S Chandler, F Greenton, J Smith (Slough), J Brisson (Otton), S Blanks (Lecester), L Catchpole, L King (Inswich), T Marston-Smith, L Newcombe (Citton), K Roberts (Chelmstord), J Swamth (Sutton, K Roberts (Chelmstord), J Swamth (Sutton, K Roberts (May 25-June 15). A Bernett K Brown (captain), S Chandler, F Greentern, M Nicholson, J Smith (Study), K Bowden, P Miller (Leicester), T Cullen, C Red (Hightown), J Empson (Cartlettury), L Newcombe (Cition), J Sesmith (Sutton Coldield), H Rose (unattached)

ICE HOCKEY

REAL TENNIS

HOLYPORT: Women's British Open: First round (Great British unless stated) C Nichol's bit C Walker B-1, 6-1, P Wilson bit S Owens 6-5, 2-6, 6-4, B Sabbag (US) bit C Armstrong-Smith 6-1, 8-1; J Walts bit P Leer 6-2, 8-1, C Cookcoolt bit J Lambert 6-0, 6-1; C Cornwells bit S Matheret 6-1, 6-0; A Garaids bit S Falkner 6-0, 6-0.

RUGBY UNION

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First di-vision: Wasse 15 Northampton 24. JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: Second division north: Numesion 36 Lichtleid 42.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

BRITTENS: Treble chance: 22µs 225.80. 21 22.60, 20 20.65 Four drame: 220.50. Five everys: 234.65 Eight homes: 216.80. LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 22µs 65.224.90, 21 243.80, 20 24.75, 18 21.35. Holl-time results: 20 218.30 Four draws: 69 70. Nine homes: 278.35. Five everys: 73.308.00

29 // Nume moment: 276.36, Preve energys: (3.309.00 Tuble chance: 22pts: (3250.40, 21 C.5.80, 20 C.5.50. ZETTERS: Trable chance: 22pts: (393.05, 21 C.5.70, 20 C.00.0). Four energys: (296.80, 20 C.5.70, 20 C.00.0). Four energys: (296.80, 21 C.5.70, 20 C.00.0). Four energy: (296.80, 21 C.5.70, 20 C.00.0). Four energy: (296.80, 20 C.5.70, 20

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Kick-oit 7.30 unless stated
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division:
Guiseley v Emily First division: Hucknalt
Town v Hamogaie Town President's Cup:
Finalt Lengh Fill v Droylsden Chellenge
Cup: Semi-final replay: Hucknalt Town v
Stalybrodye Celta:
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division:
Basingstok v Chestram Second division:
Bracknell v Thame Utd, Hemel Hempstead
v Horshem, Hungerford v Hertord, Windsor
and Eton v Tooling and Micham
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Micliand division:
Craderlord v Newport AFC, Stouthridge v Solhult Borough, Sutton Coldrield
Town v Pagel R.
AYON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
First division: Crystel Palace v Charlton,
Northempton v Luton (7 0). Peterborough v
Wycombe (7 0)
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Wast
Bromanch v Manchester City (7 0). Second
division: Rotherham v Scarborough (7.0)
FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier
division: Shelhoume v Bohsmians (7 45)

fivision: Shelboume v Bohemians (7 45) WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Premier division: Crockenhii v Ramagate SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Taunton v Melksham, Yeovi TR v

Twenton
MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division:
Atlesey Town v New Brachvel SI Peter.
Brook House v Buckingham Athletic,
Waitham Abbey v Royston, Welwyn Garden
v Isington SI Mary's
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Lymington and New Millon v Brockenhuss. JEWSON . EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Lowesidi v

Halslead. BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premi division: Woherhampton C v Gornal A.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: kamosion v LEAGUE: Premier amajor: Nampour v Potton INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: W Mid Police v Halesowen H NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Denaby v N Femby

CRICKET PPP Healthcare county championship 11 0, second day of four, 104 overs minimum

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Northemptonshire 11 0, there day of lour, 104 overs minimum Worcestershire CHELMSFORD: Essex v Leicestershire OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Sussex LORD'S: Middlesex v Kent THE OVAL: Surrey v Gloucestershire

University matches 11.30, first day of three ENNER'S: Cambridge University v

11.30, second day of three THE PARKS: Oxford University v

PLIGBY UNION WELSH LEAGUE: Premier Casrphilly v Bridgend (7 0)

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser pley-off cham-plonehip: Cuarter-finele, second leg: Manchester Giants (74) v Birmigham Bul-lets (82) (8.0), London Towers (78) v New-castle Eagles (78) (8.0).

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 47

TROVER

A to the contract of the contr

(c) Slow, cf. tardy. From the Latin tardus slow. Heywood, 1624: They neither speed,/ Nor doth their pace seeme tarde." UPYIELD

(a) To yield or deliver up; to resign. 1502: "Our King Henry to Arthure hadde the seid londs remysed and upyielden."

TELEARCH (c) The title of a magistrate in ancient Thebes. In Greek archein means to rule, and one of the meanings of telos is an office, 1797: "At Thebes the streets were under the inspection of the telearchs."

(b) The act of finding and assuming possession of any personal

property. Hence (in full, action of trover), an action at law to recover the value of personal property illegally converted by another to his own use.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE 1 ... h3! 2 fxg3 (relatively best is 2 Qxd6+ Bxd6 3 fxg3, but 3 ... Rxg3 leaves Black with an overwhelming position) 2 ... hxg2+ 3 Kxg2 Bh3+ 4 Kh1 Bxf1+ 5 Qh2 Rxh2+ 6 Kxh2 Rh8+ and mates.

The regular teams and chairman are back in They Think It's All Over (BBC1, 10pm) enomic observations on the nature of life and

death and whether Simone should keep fighting the also offers a vision of his unborn child Sipowicz (Dennis Franz) meanwhile, when not

heading the crowd of distraught colleagues whose worry about Simone is seriously affecting their work, has to deal with the discovery that his former wife is an alcoholic just like him, and

With the recent criticisms about the content of the Christmas specials still echoing around the corridors of the BBC, here is a chance to go back to

corridors of the BBC, here is a chance to go back to the beginning. Well sort of. This is the second series of six, with Neil Morrissey's Tony replacing Dermot (Harry Enfield) as the flatmate of the boorish Gary (Martin Clunes). The on-screen pairing of Clunes and Morrissey was an immediate hit and AIBB went on to become one of the most popular sitcoms of the 1990s, even spawning a US-set remake. The other halves, so to speak, Caroline Quentin and Leslie Ash, continue to provide the antidote to Gary and Tony's laddish

to provide the antidote to Gary and Tony's laddish behaviour. lan Hughes

Sadly but true, it often takes bloodshed and per-

secution before a world preoccupied with its own affairs can refocus its attention on a race or faith about which it knows next to nothing. Kosovo is a

case in point. And so, in 1984, was the Indian Army attack on the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Colden

Temple of Amritsar. BBC World Service's two-part documentary about the Sikhs - part one goes out tonight - concentrates on the Khaisa, the

community forming the core of the Sikh faith, whose tercentenary is being celebrated this year. The reporter is Indarjit Singh. From now on, there

can be no excuse for confessing that all we know about the Sikhs is that they wear turbans and

BBC WORLD SERVICE

facing a drink-driving charge.

Men Behaving Badly BBC1, 9_35pm (except Scotland)

The Khalsa

Radio 4, Spm



Lessons of Hillsborough still need to be learnt

30,000 people gathered inside Anfield Stadium for a memorial service and Bill Shankly's widow. Nessie. lit the eternal flame to a monument for 95 Liverpool supporters killed at Hillsborough.

On the fifth anniversary, 96 red roses - another victim's life-support system had been switched off - were laid by family and friends. They stood on the Spion Kop, the huge terraced banking named after Liverpool's dead of the Boer War and as synonymous with the city as the Beatles. The Kop was dismantled soon afterwards to comply with the all-seater ruling of the Taylor Report.

And today, April 15, the tenth anniversary of Hillsborough, when the expectation and joy of an FA Cup semi-final turned into tragedy, perhaps 10,000 Liverpudlians, and some from Nottingham who shared the horror, will be drawn back to Anfield. The clocks will be set at 3.06pm and Ray Lewis, the referee at Hillsborough, will signal the silent tribute.

Wherever we were that spring day. it is bound to touch us. In one sense it seems like yesterday, the avalanche of emotions, the image of men on the upper balcony reaching down like human cranes to haul out of the morass anyone who had the strength to hold on. There were youths tearing down advertising boards to act as stretchers, men and women trying to revive, or to comfort the dying.

Those caged in included a medical doctor, several nurses, a professor of economic science, the son of a policeman. Some had swapped seats to stand and to sing shoulder to shoul-

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Rob Hughes on the tenth anniversary of

the tragedy in which 96 supporters died

'At Wembley,

15 times a

year, there

is danger'

der, and died doing it. The sores have not healed. The antiquated stadiums have, perforce, been replaced, at a cost of £600 million, by fine and safe arenas. But the families cry out for justice, the Government resists another judicial review, and from the police to the survivors to the Hillsborough Families Support Group, there seems eternal infighting to lay blame and to make claim for further compensation. But there were heroes, I shall not forget Ian Clarke, then 16, and pre-

sumably one of those derided in the kneejerk aftermath by the late Nicholas Ridley, the then Environment Secretary. as "this blemish" on our civilisation. "I started pulling people out from the pile of bodies," the schoolboy recalled. learnt life-saving at

my swimming club, so I gave mouth- catalyst, a suction pump, to people to-mouth to ten or 12 of them. They trying to flee. were really purple, but I think about eight came back to life.

"I went back for more, but there was another surge and I was knocked to the ground. It was like being underwater when you can't get back up and you've got no air. I was trying to fight, but there were bodies on top of me." Clarke regained consciousness on the pitch after a policeman had dragged

We need, after that, no photograph to revive Hillsborough. Yet this week, eerily redolent, some front pages brought us visions of masses behind steel fencing, groping for a hold, anguished. It was not Hillsborough, but Kosovo; it has taken war and

atrocities to equal Hillsborough. In Britain today there are no football fences. I never understood why, of all the recriminations, few settled on administrators who had ordered the steel caging, engineers who erect-

ed it, or security officers who passed it. The tragedy of human panic occurred through the sheer confinement of too many people behind immoveable fence in which there was one narrow gate. This, when the deadly surge came. became almost a

Alas, Manchester United are now preparing for Europe, and for a stadium in Turin, the home of Juventus. that has fences, and that threatens to be overcrowded. As at Hillsborough, people intend to go to a football match without tickets and to a stadium that is booked to capacity. They hope, evidently, for black-market tickets. Lord Justice Taylor proposed that ticket touting, in this country, be made a criminal offence, but it remains rife

Whatever the exhortations of David Mellor, ready again, no doubt, to blame Italy's policing should anything go wrong, it seems that we have learnt too little if people venture out without their security or their place assured. But one can still be unnerved in England. Last August, when Reading opened their new Madejski Stadium, without first building adequate roads and with a solitary, narrow concrete staircase at the forecourt, only tolerance and good humour spared a re-enactment of the crush that caused Hillsborough.

At Wembley, 15 times a year, there is danger, with people milling around unfamiliar concourses, mounting oldfashioned steep steps, not quite sure where they are heading. The 1990 World Cup in Italy, in the wake of Hillsborough, offered the inexpensive expedient, the potentially life-saving logic of colour-coding each ticket, with matching colours to each entrance; so that at least visitors knew

where they were going.
"Whatever decisions we have to take," Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister in 1989, said, standing on the Hillsborough terraces mangled with torn and broken steel, "will be taken. We cannot go through this again."

Are we so sure? Each of football's

tragedies, from Heysel to Bradford to Hillsborough, came because there was no escape. On April 15, in 1912, the Titanic went down and people perished because adequate escape had not been planned.

We cannot turn back the clock. It remains, for those who remember Hillsborough, at 3.06pm.

Carpet kid who is not scared to jump for joy

A VIRTUALLY unknown but precocious teenager from Norfolk will face Tony Allcock, the world outdoor champion, tonight in the first round of the national indoor bowls singles championship at Melton Mowbray.

The emergence of Stephen Collingham, who is 18, and his brother. Jamie, 17, has excited followers at Melton Mowbray. partly because almost no one had heard of them before they qualified for the national

finals this winter.

The brothers, who were taught at home by their mother. Šylvia Dhonau, were given a choice of sports for their 'physical education", and

chose to concentrate on bowls. "Stephen was bullied while at primary school, and we took him out of state education," Mrs Dhonau explained. "It was a challenge for me, as well as for them, but I'm proud to say they both got

ight GCSE passes. Bowls was new to the family, but Stephen got hooked while watching Mark McMahon winning the International Open on television in 1994, and his mother discovered that there was an indoor bowls stadium not far from Nottingham, where they then

David Rhys Jones

meets a young unknown about to

face his big test I enrolled Stephen into membership of the Rushcliffe

club, partly as a therapeutic exercise, because he was undergoing a nervous break-down, and was reluctant to meet people," Mrs Dhonau said. "He is now an extremely self-assured and confident Indeed. Occasionally, men

in blazers say, he can be a bit



Stephen Collingham: therapeutic exercise

hams' reputation for exuberant behaviour preceded them from their Norfolk home to Melton Mowbray after Stephen performed some gymnastics to celebrate his 21-17 area final win over his famous Pinewood Park clubmate,

Mervyn King, the world No 6.
"I certainly like to enjoy
myself on the rink," he said.
"In that area final, I led 17-9. but Mervyn came back to level at 17-17, and I was so delighted to get the next four shots that perhaps I went a bit too far in doing a backward roll." Stephen has confounded his

critics by qualifying, from one of the strongest bowling areas in the country, for the national championships in three of the four disciplines. With Tim Bullimore, 19, and Duncan Toyn, 26, the Collinghams performed brilliantly in their opening lours match, but lost, 25-17, in the second round. Then, in the triples, they were overwhelmed. 25-5. To the relief of the traditionalists, there were no gymnastics.

"Perhaps their etiquette leaves a bit to be desired," Mike Willis, the English Indoor Bowls Association president, said. "But it was good to see their enthusiasm, and they have clearly got potential."

Champion in fighting mood

CAROLINE McALLISTER, from Lochwinnoch, may have wished for a more upbeat start to her defence of the women's world indoor singles title at Prestwick, but at least her two victories yesterday virtually assured her of a place in the knockout stage.

She was certainly worried in her opening match, when she trailed Karina Horman, 2-4. in the deciding set, but in the manner of card.

a true champion, she scored a full house to lead 6-4, and took the winning single on the next end for a 7-3, 4-7, 7-4 victory.

A poor start in her second group match saw her lose the first set, 2-7. to Aeres Davies, the Welsh champion, but another full house at the start of the second set turned the game her way, and she returned a tidy 2-7, 7-2, 7-4

A quiz for good sports Think It's All Over Hom (September 1979)

They Think It's All Over BBC1, 10pm (Scotland, 10.20pm)

The new series features a new round, "Temper Temper". in which the teams must guess what brought on the tantrum featured in a film dip of a sportsman, which seems like a hostage to fortune for a quiz in which the chairman. Nick Hancock, has often seemed to court appear if nor actual for a quiz in which the chairman. Nick Hancock, has often seemed to court anger, if not actual assault by his colleagues, because of his provocative and indeed msulting remarks. Gary Lineker, in the last series, daubed him with mud in a gesture that looked both unrehearsed and heartfelt. It was also wildly applauded. Hancock aside, the show continues to feature Gary Lineker, Dayld Gower. Rory McGrath and, in this series. David Gower. Rory McGrath and, in this series, regulars Jo Brand and Jonathan Ross.

Sky One, 9.30pm

It is typical of this show that the headline-making decision of Dr Ross (George Clooney) to leave it is almost a side issue in this second part of an incident-packed two-parter. He has burnt his boats by administering drugs without authorisation, assisted by his france Nurse Hathaway (Julianna Margulies), who bears the brunt of official displeasure even after he offers to resign. She seems pleasure even after he oftens to resign. She seems unwilling to follow him to Seattle, or Portland, but this may be partly because of her having been on duty for 24 hours, assisting with the treatment of schoolchildren whose bus has collided with a snowplough. The fact that Ross has skidded in the snow, injuring Jeanie, who turns out to have Hepatitis-C, merely adds to the complications. A commendably varied enjande. commendably varied episode.

At least George Clooney doesn't leave ER under a sheet, unlike Jimmy Smits as Detective Simone in this show, whose protracted agony as the good guy with a dodgy heart comes to an end in a welter of

rather gooey visions. Essentially, his companion into the afterworld is the pigeon keeper, who utters Afternoon Play: The Property of Colette Nervi Radio 4, 2,15pm

In print, William Trevor's tale of a stolen handbag and its catalytic impact on two unlikely lovers is a miniature masterpiece. Not a word too many. whether descriptive or conversational. Listening to this radio version, I kept telling myself that whoever it was who had adapted it had a lot to answer for because as much had been added to it as subtracted from it. I could have saved myself a lot of resentment because it transpired that the adapter was none other than Trevor himself. Nevertheless, I'm not sure that he has improved on the original, though most of the wistfulness and the moral dilemmas are still in place and, after initial misgivings, I thought the employment of the mother (Trudy Kelly) as narrator served a useful purpose.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

5.00am The World Today 6.00 The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 World Business Report 8.15 Insight 8.30 Assignment 9.00 World News 9.05 From Our Own Correspondent 9.20 Off the Shelf: News 01 A Kidnapping 9.35 The Works 10.00 World News 10.05 Network 10.20 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 10.50 Sports Round-Up 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 British Today 11.45 World Business Report 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Assignment 1.00 World News 1.05 Outlook 1.45 Sports Round-Up 2.00 Newshour 3.00 World News 3.05 The World 3.30 Maridian Books 4.00 World News 4.0 5 Sports Round-Up 4.15 Westway 4.30 The Greenfield Collection 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Insight 6.00 Newdesk 6.30 Record News 6.45 Sports Round-Up 7.00 World News 7.15 Britain Today 7.30 Assignment 8.00 World News 8.05 The Worlds 8.30 Coffee - A Hellish Brew 8.45 Off the Shelf News 01 A Kidnapping 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 World Business Report 10.20 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Books 11.00 World News 11.15 Sports Round-Up 11.30 Blues World 12.00 World News 11.55 My Century 2.00 The World Today 2.30 Westway 2.45 Performance 3.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports 4.30 The World Today 1.30 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports 4.30 The World Today 1.30 The World Today 1.30 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports 4.30 The World Today 1.30 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports 4.30 The World Today 4.30 The World 6.30am Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 3.00pm Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeet 6.00 Dave Pearce. The best music 8.00 Steve Lamaco; The Evening Session 10.00 The Global Updale. New series 16.10 John Peet 12.00 Andy Kershaw 2.00am Cive Warren 4.00 Scott MRs

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7,30 Wake Up to Wogan 9,30 Richard Alinson 12,00 Jimmy Young 2,00pm Ed Stewart 5,05 Johnnie Walker 7,00 Bob Herris Country 8,00 Paul Jones 9,00 Take it Easyr Calrioma Cool (4/6) 9,30 The News Huddines 10,00 The Alan Price Set (6/6) 10,30 Lynn Parsons 12,00 Katrina Leskanich 3,00am Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Breekfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm fan Payne, including racing from Newmarket's Craven meeting with live commentary on the 2.35 and 3.10 races 4.00 Drive with Jane Garvey and Peter Allen 7.00 News Extra with Annie Websier 7.30 Wernbiey, the Church of Football (2/4) 8.00 Inside Edge 9.00 Hoops 9.30 Sportshop 10.00 Lete Night Live 1.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00em The Big Boys Breeklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm & Sally James 12.00 Justice With Jacobs 1.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 The Sports Zone 7.00 One to One with Andy Gray 8.00 Jackie Meson 10.06 James Whale 1.00em Ian Collins

VIRGIN

6.30am The Breaklast Show 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Hamet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 Gary Davies 1.00am Richard Alien 4.30 Phil Kennedy

Concerto No 1 in E minor) 3.00 Jamile Crick. Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance 6.30 Newsnight. The latest headlines and sport updates 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven John Brunning Introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Supple (Kannese Jubilee Overture); Schubert Clymphony No 4 in C minor); Rossini (Messa di Milano); Chausson (Poeme for Violin and Orchestra) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto. Chopin (Piano Concerto No 1 in Emmor) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths. The Early Breaklast Show

6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny reports on the Berlin concert by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra 9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday. Beethoven (Piano Sonata in G, Op 31 No 1): Haydn (Te deum in C, H XXIIIc 2): Bach (Prelude and Fugue in G, BW550); Warlock (Capriol Sulte) 10.30 Artist of the Weelc Moura Lympany 11.00 Sound Stories: Architects Peggy Reynolds remembers Charles Gamier, who designed the Palais Gamier in France
12.00 Composer of the Weelc: J.C. Bach
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Jeremy Huw Williams, barltone, Iain Burnside, piano. Schumann (Dichterliebe); Hoddinott (Five Poems of Gustavo Adolfo Bacquer): Debussy (Trois ballades de Villon) (r)

ballades de Villon) (r)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Philharmonic
4.00 The Plano Weekly series in which Piers Lane

investigates the world of the plano past and

present (r)

5.00 in Tune Sean Rafferty introduces music including Chopin (Ballade No 2 in F, Op 38), played by

Chopin (Ballade No 2 in F, Op 38), played by Murray Perahia
7.25 Performance on 3: Mephistopheles Live from the London Coliseum, the operatic version of the Faust legend by Amgo Botto, Ian Judge's wild new production for English National Opera is introduced by James Naughtle and sung in a new English translation by Carlos Wagner. With Alastair Miles, bass, David Rendall, tenor, English National

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20 Car 65

6.00esh Nick Bailey's Easier Breakfast. A selection of rousing music to start the day 8.00 Henry Kelly The Hall of Fame Hour and CD of the Week 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones presents favourite music 2.00pm Concerto. Chopin (Plano Concerto No 1 in E minor) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Continuous Concerto No 1 in E minor) 3.00 Measurants The latest

Opera Chorus and Orchestra under Olivier von Dohnanyi. Prologue: Acts 1 and 2 9.00 The Devil with the Best Turnes. Torn Rosenthal considers the numerous musical offspring of the Faust tegend inspired by both Goethe and Marlowe 9.20 Mephistophetes. Acts 3 and 4; Epilogue 10.30 Postscript: Searnus Heaney at 60 (4/5) 10.40 Haydin (Plano Trio in E flat, H XV 30). Performed by the Beaux Arts Trio 11.00 Night Waves Paul Allein reassesses the file and legacy of Kurt Schwitters, whose work included architecture, sculpture, literature and painting 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Schwitters, whose work included architecture, sculpture, literature and painting 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Schwitters, whose work included architecture, sculpture, literature and painting 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Schwitters, whose work included architecture, sculpture, literature and painting 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Schwitters, whose work included architecture, sculpture, literature and painting 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Schwitters, whose work included architecture, sculpture, literature and painting 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn (Overture "Marlifed") 12.15 Bruhns (Jazchzet den Herren alle Weit) 12.30 Mozart (String Quartat in D. K575) 1.00 Danish NRSO under Michael Schonwandt. Nielsen and Haydin 2.25 Germinian (Concerto grosso No 12, Folia) 2.40 Nicolai (Overture: The Merry Wirves of Windson) 2.50 Mozart (Plano Concerto No 20) 3.25 Mendelssohn (Viola Sonata) 3.50 Schurmann (Gesange der Fruhe) 4.05 Avison (String Quartet No 1) 4.50 Telemann (Sonata in F) 5.00 Purcell (Ode on St Cecilia's Day, excerpts) 5.15 Mendelssohn (Organ Sonata in A. Op 65 No 3) 5.25 Pylikarnen (Summer Scenes) 5.40 Holmboe (Song at Sunset) 5.50 Shostakovich (Festival Overture)

Contract to

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5.30em World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Farming Today Presented by Anna Hill 6.00 Today with John Humphrys and James Naughbe 8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Partiament Round-up of developments 9.00 Melvyn Bragg: In Our Time Guests join Melvyn Bragg to consider ideas and events which have influenced the present age 9.30 Automatic for the People Alan Dein talks to people who once left their mark on vinyl by using auto-recording booths (4/4)

people who once left their mark on vinyl by using auto-recording booths (4/4)

9.45 (FM) Serial: Choice Chatwin Susannah Clapp reads extracts from Utz, by Bruce Chalwin

9.45 (LW) Dailty Service

10.00 Woman's Hour The actress Eleanor Bron refis Jenni Murray about her performance in a trilogy of plays opening in London this week

11.00 Crossing Continents Rosie Goldsmith wasts the Indian state of Gujarat to meet shipbrokers on the beach at Alang

11.30 My Uncle Freddie by Alex Ferguson. Comedy set in Tyneside charting the relationship between a boy and his uncle. Lacky and his uncle meet hwo Spanish guernilas. With Shaun Prendergast and Gareth Brown (5/6)

12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast

12.00 (FM) News 12.04pm You and Yours Consumer news and investigations, presented by John Waite and Liz Barclay

1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke

and 117 Barciay

1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke

1.30 Open Country Richard Undge presents rural

2.00 The Archers Yeslenday's edition (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: The Property of Colette Nervi
William Trevor's tale. See Choice
3.00 Call You and Yours: 0670 010 0444 Consumer
justice programme, presented by Peter White

3.28 Radio 4 Appeal The Duke of Kent speaks on behalf of Endeavour Training (r)
3.30 A Name to Remember Barbara Myers looks at Charles Bell's work on nerve function (4/5) (r)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey narrates part 74 of the history of Britain (r)
4.00 Nice Work Alison Mitchell investigates the changing world of work.
4.30 The Material World Trevor Phillips and guests discuss recent breakthroughs in the development of vaccines against deadby diseases
5.00 PM with Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 That Reminds Me Peter Jones reminisces about his career in comedy (4/6)

6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 That Reminds Me Peter Jones reminisces about his career in cornedy (4/6)
7.00 The Archers The latest from Ambridge
7.15 Front Row Francine Stock discusses the science fiction novels of Doris Lessing
7.45 Diary of a Provincial Lady E.M. Detafield's household journal. Broadcast earlier as pert of Woman's Hour (f)
8.00 The Khalsa Part one. See Choice (1/2)
8.30 The Week in Westminister
9.00 Leading Edge Geoff Watts reports on the latest research into the origins of life
9.30 Melvyn Bragg: In Our Time Broadcast earlier (f)
10.00 The World Torright with Robin Lusting
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archangel Alan Howard reads part nine of Pobert Harris's thriller
11.00 Late Night on 4: Do Go On A satincal discussion of media absurdity, focusing on manners (3/6)
11.30 (FM) Experimental Feature: Your Place or Mine? Dawn Collinson investigates County music in Branson, Missouri (3/5) (f)
11.30 (LW) Today in Partisment
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Earthly Joy's Part nine of Philippa Gregory's novel

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 633, 909. WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.56m)-CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio fistings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, Ian Hughes, Gilfian Maxey, Jane Gregory and Barry O'Keefe

Quality TV? They must be barking mad

widen your circle of acquaintances you cannot beat keeping a dog. Oft I can be observed walking off a heavy meal by pushing a vacuum cleaner up and down the living room carpet to collect the dog's hairs, which replicate themselves tenfold upon the dog for every thousand that are dumped on the carpet.

Control arts

And I am now on familiar terms with people in relatively distant parts of the town, who ring me up having read the telephone number that dangles from the neck of the great beast who is stretched out on their patio, sleeping off the exertion that attends eating the contents of their compost heap.

These huge advantages of dog ownership, together with the requirement - plainly absent inmy case - for fences on a par with a maximum security prison, needed to be kept firmly in mind while watching Battersea Dogs Home

last night. Otherwise one could come away with the impression that all a dog does is throw itself at wire mesh while barking insanely. Heaven forfend.

There is a terrific series to be made about dogs. What a shame this isn't it. Nor was Animal Hospital, in which Rolf Harris simpered over assorted ailing creatures. Battersea is more social than medical, though the series opened with Mama, a pregnant bull terrier cross, which duly delivered seven puppies.

Actually, I have been trying to forget what the series really opened with, but I can repress it no longer. It opened with the "theme which consisted of assorted dogs barking out the tune of Perfect Day. Hilarious? Not even slightly. Gross? Now you're getting warm. Then came Mama, who was something of a fair-weather mama. She rolled on

(BBCl), a new series that started one puppy, suffocating it, another died and the remaining five were taken "for fear that their sickly condition might make the mother

> resumably Battersea Dogs Home was in the can before the BBC decided to "dumb up" and ignore the ratings, for the only posssible point of this show is to get people to sit down in front of it because it contains dogs. You might as well sit down in my living room: that contains a dog. A sleeping dog, more often than not, so that the experience is about as informative as the programme,

but a darn sight quieter. The series someone ought to be making is the one about why we have so many dogs and how our relationship with them has changed over the years. Did you know that dogs have become more dominant because the advent of central heating has encouraged





Peter Barnard

them to colonise every corner of the house? Well there you are. Just about the only thing we discovered last night was that Lionel Blair and his wife (there appears to be a celebrity slot each week, God help us) used to have a dog that got run over but they now have two other dogs called Jenny and Florence that get on ever so well and love to go a-gamboling in the Blairs' garden. Absolutely

The television companies have taken ages to come up with another excuse for putting Diana. Princess of Wales on the screen but last night ITV ran a one-off documentary, The Unseen Royals, a title that would be reported to the Office of Fair Trading if it was an advert. Apart from a couple of private snapshots, there was nothing unseen about these royals.

the royals were the focus of the programme, giving their impressions of the monarch and the rest of them. Nothing very original there, but some of the observations served a genuine need, for they gave a balance to the perceived notion that whereas Diana was a saint who walked the Earth, the Prince of Wales is some sort of unfeeling git who lives in a palace on the planet Zog.

Ordinary people who had met

There was a powerful contribution from David Akinsanya, a pop impressario and tireless worker for the Prince's Trust, who usefully built a word bridge across the chasm between perception and reality: "Once you get to know (Prince Charles) he's ... an OK sort of bloke. In fact I think the sun shines out of his ass. Given his position in life, he does not need to give a monkey's about what's going on. You can whisk through every town in your Roller or Daimler and not give a monkey's, but he does."

iana got more attention from the programme than anyone else: I wonder why that can be? The footage included a classic illustration of what it is that she had and why that made her special. Two little girls, Hayley and Holly, had been in a hospital Diana visited and Hayley was deputed to give the Princess a asked about her impressions of meeting Diana. She used 17 words where others have needed a thousand: "She looked right into my face and hereyes were sparkly ... she made me feel really special." Yes, that is exactly what she did do and that is exactly what so many members of the Royal

Family signally fail to do. Consider for example another experience from David Akinsanya's encounters with the royals. He recalled the time that he took a rap band he was managing to meet the Duke of Edinburgh. Akinsanya is black, as was the band. "So what part of the world are you from?" the Duke asked. Philip got the answer he deserved. which was the truth: "Hackney".

The establishing of a multiethnic Britain was always going to be a bottom-up, rather than a top-down, process. Just as well, it would seem.

વે ં ^{પૂર}ે, BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (68399) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (62888) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (9969134) 9.45 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (930863)

10.15 The Vanessa Show (T) (8994478) 11.00 News; Weather (1) (5820738) 11.05 City Hospital (T) (9030467) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (6140270) 12.00 Going for a Song (4433757) 12.25pm Wipeout (5988842) 12.50 The Weather Show (T) (76898399)

1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (12365)

1.30 Regional News; Weather (58968844) 1.40 Neighbours Sarah and Karl are found in a compromising position (1) (16119641) 2.05 Ironside Mark's friend is under threat, so he goes undercover to pursue an evil

loan shark (r) (1014399) 2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (2073554) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (8410738) 3.45 Chucklewood Critters (2407776) 4.10 Alvin and the Chipmunks (1244660) 4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (5707950) 4.35 Goosebumps (7408283) 5.00 Newsround (5430080) 5.10 Miami 7

5.33 Rewind (T) (409115) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (804370) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (318) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (370) 7.00 Watchdog with Anne Robins Consumer investigations (T) (9405)

7.30 EastEnders Tony and Simon could be in trouble (T) (554) 8.00 Harbour Lights Jane and Philip plan a massive party to celebrate their engagement (T) (104080)

8.50 Points of View Viewers' opinions of the week's programmes (T) (385383) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (545134)

9.35 CHOICE Men Behaving Badly Gary looks for a new flatmate, and along comes Tony (r) (1) (811202) 10.00 CHOICE They Think It's All Over New series. Light-hearted sports es. Light-hearted sports quiz (1) (76196)



Frank Skinner presents a new series of his comedy show (10.30pm)

10.30 The Frank Skinner Show in the first of a new series of topical comedy, the Black Country comedian offers his unique insights into modern living (T) (85844) 11.00 Question Time From Cardiff (1) (17592) 12.00 Bophal (1993) Apartheid drama. South African policeman Danny Glover faces a conflict of loyalties when his son Incites violence in their township. Directed by Morgan Freeman (1) (721055)

1.55am Weather (2155790) 2.00 BBC News 24 (2992852)

WATES 9.30-9.35 Party Election Broadcast (806405) BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Noddy in Toyland (62806) 7.30 The Bots Master (8819009) 7.55 Blue Peter (8267202) 8.20 Destardly and Muttley (8972573) 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (3455592) 8.50 Wishing (3451776) 9.00 The Munsters (7966028) 9.25 The Phil Silvers Show (7978863) 9.50 Just So Stories (7407318) 10.00 Teletubbies (68738) 10.30 FILM: The Great Caruso (49175757) 12 15 pm Requitiful Thiops (49175757) 12.15pm Beautiful Things (7047689) 12.25 Turning Points (9284889) 12.30 Working Lunch (43793) 1.00 Wishing (38193221)

1.10 The Leisure Hour (r) (1702825) 2.10 Sporting Greats (89874573) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (8285825)

2.45 Westminster (T) (5031757) 3.25 News; Weather (T) (5771863) 3.30 Call My Bluff (776)

4.00 The Village (r) (7090318) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (1) (7093405) 4.55 Esther (T) (9285115) 5.30 Whose House? (937)

6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine Sci-fi advneture (r) (T) (740950) 6.45 Buffy the Vampire Slayer Buffy is worried by the arrival of two new

vampires in Sunnydale (T) (128009) 7.30 Making It The young product designers Darren Mullen and Matthew Plested are hired to design a new e-mail system and revemp BT's phones (T) (196) 8.00 Ray Mears' World of Survival Global expeditions with the survival expert Ray

Mears (r) (T) (3467) 8.30 Top Gear James May test-drives the new Lexus iS200 (T) (5202)



More cross-cultural comedy with the Coopers, or is that Kapurs? (9pm)

9.00 Goodness Gracious Me Popular Asian sketch show (r) (T) (4318) 9.30 Talking Heads Dame Thora Hird stars in an Alan Bennett monologue (r) (28047)

10.00 Morecambe and Wise Vintage sketches (r) (T) (619347) 10.33 Video Nation Shorts (T) (188554)

10.35 Newsnight (T) (512467) 11.20 Late Review Cultural highlights (764028) 11.55 Holiday Weather (853776) 12.00 Despatch Box (64697)

12.30 bespect Box (04097)

12.30 m BBC Learning Zone: Open University: The Care Industry 1.00 Whose Body? 1.30 Talking About Care 2.00 GCSE Bitesize Revision — History 4.00 Teaching Film and Media: The Holocaust on Film 4.30 Film Education. The Destributor, Tale 5.00 Teacher Transport Distributor's Tale 5.00 Teacher Training: Planet Europe 5.15 Planet Europe: Socrates, Learning in Europe 5.45 Open University: A New Sun is Born — Part 2: The Revolution 6.10 One Fact, Many Facets 6.35 Our Health in Our Hands

WALES

7.30pm-8.00 House Detectives (r) (T) (196) 10.30 Party Election Broadcast (188554)

5.30am ITV Morning News (81919)

6.00 GMTV (2802844) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3555115) 10.30 This Morning (T) (49162283) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (7025487) 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News (1) (2649221) 12.55 Shortland Street Billy takes the easy

option (1715399) 1.30 Lie Detector (T) (16115825) 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5073283) 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (1) (2079738) 3.10 ITV News Headlines (I) (5770134)

3.15 HTV News (1) (5779405) 3.20 CTV: Maisy (5776318) 3.25 The Adventures of Dawdle (5759641) 3.35 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (5514399) 3.50 Lavender Castle (5528592) 4.05 Hey Arnold! (7086115) 4.30 Children's Ward (221)

5.00 Catchphrase (r) (T) (1009) 5.30 WEST: The Pleasure Guide Regional entertainment magazine (T) (573) 5.30 WALES: Crazy Creatures School-children learn about goats (T) (573)

5.58 HTV Weather (413318) 6.00 HTV News (T) (486) 6.25 WALES: Party Election Broadcast By the Welsh Liberal Democrats (501514)

Finnigan (950)

6.29 HTV Crimestoppers (501514) 6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (T) (738) 7.00 Emmerdale Mandy asks Terry and Viv for advice (T) (4573) 7.30 WEST: We Can Work It Out with Judy

7.30 WALES: The Insiders New series. A look at life inside Portland Young Offender Institution (950) 8.00 The Bill Lennox and Rawton visit Salisbury to bring in a conman (T) (9592)



Amita Dhirir, Dinita Gohil and Sacha Dawan star as survivors (9pm)

9.00 The Last Train The ravenous survivors seek refuge in a derelict house, where they are able to drink fresh water for the first time since the impact (3/6) (T) (6026) 10.00 WEST: Tonight with Trevor McDonald Interviews and current affairs (T) (9115) 10.00 WALES: The Ferret Consumer reports,

with Chris Segar (94592) 10.30 WALES: The Sharp End The National assembly's impact (70912) 11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (540370) 11.20 HTV News and Weather (T) (459689) 11.30 WEST: A Trip in the Cosmic Buggy

The Bath pub and club scene (T) (84776) 11.30 WALES: Tonight with McDonald (T) (51134) 12.00 Public Morals (r) (57351) 12.30am The Jerry Springer Show (9108852) 1.15 Trainspotters (5/13) (262210)

2.15 Pop Down the Pub Pop quiz (12806) 2.45 Box Office America Top 10 (4049806) 3.10 Cybernet Computer news (84404806) 3.40 Murder, She Wrote (2735055) 4.30 Coach (r) (83796871) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (3316264)

As HTV West except: 12.20-12.30pm Central News; Weather

12.55 Lie Detector (2624912) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4805028) 2.10-2.40 Echo Point (89878399) 3.15-3.20 Central News (5779405)

5.30 Shortland Street (573) 6.00-6.30 Central News at Six Weather

11.20-11.30 Central News; Weather (459689) 11.30-12.35 Wonderful You (216641)

1.20am Jenny (2793185) 1.45 Pop Down the Pub (24697) 2.15-3.05 T in the Park (2176264) 3.30 The Making of Very Bad Things

4.00 Central Jobfinder '99 (7987852) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (9490210)

WE COMORN SER

As HTV West except: 12.15pm Westcountry

News (T) (7025467) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (9251115) 12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live; Weather (T) 12.55-1.25 (2624912) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (4805028) 2.10-2.40 Lie Detector (T) (89878399) 3.15-3.20 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (5779405) 4.59-5.00 Birthday People (8441860) 5.30 Dig It with Den (573) 6.00-6.30 Westcountry Live; Weather (T) (486) 11.20-11.30 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (459689) 11.30-12.30 Wonderful You (6/7) (r) (T) (51134)

MENDAN

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7025467) 5.30 Grass Roots (T) (573) 6.00-6.30 Meridian Tonlght (T) (486) 7.29-7.30 Meridian Weather (169405) 11.20 Meridian News; Weather (T) (459689) 11.30-12.30 Fitz: (T) (51134) - 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (T) (22852)

ANGLE

As HTV West except: 12,14pm Anglia Air Watch (9256660) 12.15-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (7025467) 5.25-8.00 About Anglia (4446842) 6.00-6.30 Anglia News (1) (486) 11.19 Anglia Air Watch (864680) 11.20 Anglia News and Weather (1) (459689) 11.30 Crime Night (956202) 11.45-12.00 The Ticket (r) (951757)

Sec No. 29 Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (28938115) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (69805979) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (7) (92101370) 9.05 Saved by the Beil (1) (92965488) 9.30 Sam and Max by the Bell (1) (92905480) 9.30 Sain and Max (93259221) 10.00 CatDog (54653738) 10.20 Boy Meets World (T) (54662486) 10.45 Moesha (50874991) 11.15 The Bigger Breakfast (25273738) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (90500573) 12.00 Bewritched (r) (T) (63339641) Planed Plant (T) (69875738) 1.30 Doors to Manual (6/6) (T) (99141009) 1.55 Racing from Newmarket and Cheltenham (15263467) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (99277399) 4.30 Rickl Lake (T) (99266283) 5.00 Planed Plant (41648196) 5.30 Countdown (T) (99280863) (*105/36) 3.30 Countries (*1) (\$320003) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (497142 83) 6.10 Heno (T) (39502028) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (41651660) 7.30 Electoral Broadcast (56789863) 7.35 Newyddion (T) (31138979) 8.05 Slaymaker (T) (84584134) 8.35 Teulu'r Mans (r) (T) (52790399) 9.05 She's Gotta Have It (1/10) (T) (57285641) 9.35 Friends (T) Have it (1/10) (1) (57235641) 9.35 Friends (1) (84706047) 10.05 Dispatches (T) (51011399) 10.40 Father Ted (T) (81096202) 11.10 The 11 O'Clock Show (85641405) 11.40 King of the Hill (T) (67231134) 12.10am First on Four (r) (T) (15250429) 12.40 Prey (T) (86753413) 1.40

CHANNEL 4

5.25am Alfie Atkins (9533979) 5.35 The Pink Panther Show (2749950) 5.55 Sesame Street (5908283) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (97738) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (T) (3119950)

9.05 Saved by the Bell (1) (7950467) 9.30 Sam and Max (22863) 10.00 CatDog (T) (3892844)

10.20 Boy Meets World (1) (3801592) 10.45 Moesha (T) (914825)

11.15 The Bigger Breakfast (6358592) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (5509) 12.00 Sesame Street (T) (91405) 12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (33979) 1.00 Caroline in the City (90825)

1.30 Little Gems (13949592) 1.35 The Three Stooges (r) (95174912)

1.55 Racing from Newmarket and Chelten-ham From Newmarket. The 2.05 Swaffnam Handicap Stakes, 2.35 Feilden Stakes, 3.10 City Index Craven Stakes, and the 3.45 Bentonline Stakes. From Cheltenham: the 2.20 Concord Classifile Handicap Hurdle, the 2.55 Cheltenham Mares Only Handicap Hurdle, and the 3.30 Doncaster Bloodstock Sales/EBF Mares Only Standard Open Flat Race Final (69466592)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (979) 4.30 Countdown (T) (7425950) 4.55 Ricki Lake (1) (9270283) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (115)

6.00 Friends Isabella Rossellini makes Ross's day by dropping into Central Perk for a cup of coffee (r) (T) (888) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (680)

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (353739) 7.55 The A-Z of Scotland (1) (943689) 8.00 Designs on Your Car (2/3) (r) (T) (7134)



Harry Enfield made his debut as oadsamoney on Channel 4 (9pm)

9.00 First on Four The many taces of the comedian Harry Enfield (r) (1) (9486) 9.30 Dispatches An investigation into the effects of domestic violence on children (T) (13115)

10.00 CHOICE NYPD Blue Simone has a heart transplant, but is left hovering on the brink of death with a chest infection and a fever (1) (7757) 11.00 The 11 O'Clock Show (4931)

11.30 Ally McBeal Cage prepares for his long-awarted date with Ally (r) (T) (59776) 12.30am 4 Later Introduction; Prey (6591719) 1.25 Vids Officeat video review (3669535) 2.00 Late Toon Animation (5622158) 2.05 NYPD Blue Gina is wounded in an afternpted rape (r) (T) (2087326)

2.55 St Elsewhere Luther loses his sense of hearing in an explosion (r) (4202852) 3.45 Bulldog Drummond (1929) Ronald Colman plays the former British Army hero. Adventure, with Joan Bennett. Directed by F. Richard Jones (590245)

5.35 How We Used to Live (2716622)

5.15 Lube (3907603)

CHANNEL 5

6 00em 5 News and Sport (5763405) 7.00 WideWorld Maggie Philbin looks at the nature of invention (r) (T) (2613221)

7.30 Milkshake! (2418979)

7.35 Muppet Babies (4832592) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8612825)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (8611196) 9.00 Fame and Fortune (r) (T) (8635776)

9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6632573)

10.20 Sunset Beach (T) (4025047) 11.10 Leeza (r) (3780912)

12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (8615912) 12.30pm Family Affairs The boys inspect the haul (r) (T); 5 News Update (9330711)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sheila goe to court (T) (2612592) 1.30 The Roseanne Show (3197392)

2.00 McMillan and Wife: Terror Times Two (TVM 1972) Light-hearted mystery starring Rock Hudson and Susan S James as a crimebusting couple who fire themselves caught up in a string of puzzling cases. Directed by Leonarc Stem (76714757)

3.20 A Man Called Gannon (1969) A young runaway learns about the realities of life from a tough-talking cowboy as the travel along the American Frontier Western, with Tony Franciosa. Directet by James Goldstone (10315738)

5.20 5 News Update (59024573) 5.30 100 Per Cent (6910776) 6.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's

stories (T) (6917689) 6.30 Family Affairs Gabby puts Pete on the spot (T), 5 News Update (6991641)

7.00 Knight Rider Michael and KITT help truckers who have been hijacked and had their cargoes stolen (r); 5 News Update (2927825) 7.30 Aussie Birds New senes Antipodea

birds, tonight focusing on the predator currawong, a member of the Australia butcher-bird family (1/7) (T); 5 New Update (6997825)

8.00 The Pepsi Chart Suede perform the new single Electricity, New Radicals sin-You Get What You Give and Martin McCutcheon gives yet another rendition of Perfect Moment (2936573)

learn Spanish and their staff bravel agree to do the "Full Monty" in the ba-Marion and Derek go through mor trauma as their faithful dog dies, and th cameras revisit the dance teacher Kare to find she has made good progres since leaving England (3/8) (2915080) 9.00 Her Desperate Choice (TVM 1996) A

underground group help a desperate worman to flee the authorities and : private detective in an attempt to profes her daughter. Drama, with Kyle Secor Faith Ford, Hanna Hall and Nigr Bennett Directed by Michael Scott (T): News Update (49060047)

10.50 Bring Me the Head of Light Enter tainment Comedy quiz (7367028) 11.20 Red Shoe Diaries A maid stumble: upon her boss's steamy video (1040196)

11.55 Ice Hockey NHL Richard Orlord and Todd Macklin present coverage of Boston v Pittsburgh (62259919) 4.30am Live and Dangerous (5822090) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6634055)

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• For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY ONE 7.00am Count Duckula (57134) 7.30 7.00am Count Duckula (57134) 7.30 Genminy (36541) 8.00 Earthworm Jim (11680) 8.30 Godzila (46979) 9.00 Pokemon (20931) 9.30 Simpsons (64683) 10.00 Shadou Raiders (19486) 10.30 Xena (71283) 11.30 Legend of the Hidden City (72318) 12.00 Tarzan (54486) 1.00pm Mad About You (55406) 1.30 Jeopardy (67950) 2.00 Satly Jessy Raphael (10115) 3.00 bens bens (561486) 4.00 Pokemon (4221) Auto Sary Jessy Haphae (1011b) activities Renry Jones (76134) 4.00 Poternon (4221) 4.30 Shadow Raiders (3955) 5.00 Star Trek: Deop Space Nine (4738) 6.00 America's Dumbest Chiminals (1370) 6.30 Dream Team (5950) 7.00 Simpsons (5467) 7.30 Simpsons (1134) 8.00 Friends (4115) 8.30 Smrpony (113) 8.000 Finends (51825) 9.30 Finends (51825) 9.00 Finends (51825) 9.30 ER (29844) 11.00 Veronica's Closed 127844) 11.00 Dream Team (56370) 11.30 Sar Trek Deep Space Mine (28405) 12.30em Law and Order (16784) 1.30 Long

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film relephone 0990 800888 Sky BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51) here (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)

Mousehunt (1997) Sky BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Hard Ratn (1998) SKY PREMIER

6.00am A Change of Heart (1997) (40:36) 7.30 Bogus (1996) (3000) 9.30 Mission: Impossible (1996) (77316) 11.30 A Change of Heart (1997) 28432) 11.30 A Change of Heart (1997) (28-32) 1.30 pm Empire of the Sun (1997) 186(61) 4.00 Bogus (1995) (452) 6.00 Missien: Impossible (1995) (68844) 8.30 Keep the Aspidistra Plying (1997) 1697(1997) 10.10 Rensom (1995) 1555270) 12.10 pm Foother (1996) 1607577) 1.55 Last of the High Kings and Deceive (1996) (57205852)

SKY MOVIEMAX 5.40am Amorel (1993) (4168134) 7.10 No More Bethel (1997) (80879486) 9.00 Wanhoe (1962) (457234) 11.30 Heart Full of Rain (1967) (28564) 1,00pm Rescuers: Stories of Courage — Two Women (1987) (25047) 3.00 Ivaninos (1982) (482)34) 5.30 Heart Full of Rain (1987) (41115) 7.00 Rescuters: Stories of Courage — Two Women (1987) (33738) 9.00 in Defence of Munier (1997) (57478) 11.00 Showdown (1983) (851399) 12.40em Evil Has a Face (1995) (215719) 2.15 Moorlight and Valentino (1995) (631055) 4.00 Home Invasion (1997) (50087) SKY CINEMA

4.06pm A Cinamp at Oxford (1940) (7225573) 6.00 Tarzen and the Mermaids (7255/3) 8.00 largan and the manager (1945) (5304234) 8.00 larger (1966) (7859329) 10.00 The Drowning Pool (1975) (7537485) 11.50 100 Years. 100 Movies. in Search 07 (658878) 12.40am No Highway in the Sky (1951) (4343413) 2.20 The Maguer (1969) (5382210) 4.20 Valley of Eagles (1951) (6078603)

FILMFOUR__ 8.00pm Bread and Alley (1970) (5591776) 6.10 Where is My Friend's House? (1969) (65272009) 8.00 Guneracy (1962) (33605047) 9.40 Vegas Shit (6235283) 10.00 The Wild Search (1969) (8413047) 11.48 The Taking of Pelham 123 (1974) (9987554) 1.25am Eat Drink Man Woman (1994) (64701790) 3.30 Kes (1970) (4336239) 8.00 Close

9.00pm Some Come Running (1958) (39550739) 11.30 Zigzag (1970) (4608869) 1.30am Children of the Dammed (1864) (4434413) 3.00 Night Digger (1971) (84599177) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre 7.15 Whestling 8.15
You're Ort Sky Sports! 9.00 Flacing News
9.20 Aerobics 10.00 Scotisch Football
11.30 Unbeltevable Sports 12.00 Aerobics
Oz Skyle 12.30pm Rugby League World
2.00 Scotlish Football 3.30 Australian Flatly
Championship 4.00 World Pool League
5.00 World Whestling Federation
Supersiars 6.00 Sports Centre Special 7.00
Football League Review 7.30 Pantion End
8.00 Live Bastreiball 10.00 Sports Centre
Special 11.00 You're On Sky Sports! 11.45 8.00 Doe Baserball House Sports 11.45
Formula Three 12.15am Sports Centre 12.30 roule On Sty Sports 1.15 Football League Review 1.45 Futbol Mundel 2.15
Spanish Football 3.46 Basketball 6.45
Sports Centre 5.45 Close

7.00am Aerobics 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45 Racing News 8.15 Linbelevable Sports 8.45 Sports Centre 9.00 Fish TV 10.00 World Pool 11.00 Watersports World 12.00 FA Cup Footbell 1.30pm World Pool 2.30 Watersports World 3.30 FA Cup Footbell 5.00 Lue US Golf 7.00 Live US Golf 9.00 Live US God 7,000 the Cos God 300 Live US God 11,00 Sports Auction Preview 11,30 Futbol Mundial 12,00 Trans Works Sport 1,00am Formula Patrier Auti 1,30 Formula Three 2,00 The Rugby Club 3,00 Pavison End 3,30 Formula Patrier Auti 4,00 Sports Centre 4,15 Close

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00am Wresting 1.00pm Fish TV 2.00 FA Cup Final Classics 3.30 Unbeferable Sports 4.00 Inside the FGA Tour 4.30 Inside the Senior PGA Tour 5.00 Football League Formula Three 6.30 Formula Paimer Audi 7.00 Sports Audion Preview 7.30 The Rugby Club 8.30 Spanish Football 10.00 Football Scrapbook 11.30 Close

cross 12.00 Tenns 1.30pm Live Tenns 4.00 Live Football 6.00 Racing Line 7.00 Live Football 8.00 Weighthing 11.00 Racing Line 12.00 Call Dwing 12.30mm Close UK GOLD

Elioti 10.30 Rioda 11.00 Dalles 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm EastEnders 1.00 Bugs 2.00 Dallas 2.55 The Bill 3.55 EastEnders 4.30 Rhoda 5.00 At Creatures Great and Smail 8.00 Dynasty 7.00 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em 7.40 Last of the Summer Wine 8.20 Dad's Army 9.00 The Young Ones 9.45 Bodom 10.25 State 11.35 The Bit 12.35am Between the Lines 1.30 Ded's Army 2.05 The Man from Armoe 2.45 Shopping with Screenshop

SKY SPORTS 2

EUROSPORT 7.30am Golf 8.30 Football 10.00 Start Your Engines 11.00 Motorcycling 11.30 Moto-

7.00am Crossroads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 EastEnders 8.30 The Bill 9.30 The House of

GRANADA PLUS 6.00am Wish Me Luck 7.00 How's Your Fether? 7.30 The Odd Counte 8.00 Families 8.30 Mind Your Lampaige 9.00 Classic Coronaron Street 8.30 Emperate 10.00 Linetzers Progressins 11.00 Charles Angels 12.00 Classo Connaton Sires: 12.30pm Emmercae 1.00 Mod Your Language 1.30 Me arti My Gr 2.00



SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

A strange alien entity is discovered at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean in Berry Levinson's sci-fi thriller Sphere (Sky Box Office 2)

Upstairs, Downdarrs 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Professionals 5.00 Charle's Angels 5.30 Emmerciale 8.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 The Professionals 8.00 The Berry Hill Show 9.00 The Sweeney 10.00 Hale and Pace 10.30 The Cornectans 11.00 Men and Motors CARLTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Coolong? 5.30 Gndlock 6.00 My Two Wives 6.30 Our House 7.00 Shine On, Harvey Moon 8.00 Sale and Sound 8.30 An Inspector Calls 8.00 St Essevines 10.00 A Difficult Woman 11.00 Hill Street Blues 12.00 My Two Wives 12.30am Grdlock 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

10.00 Roy Meets World 10.30 Boy Meets

on Demand 1.00 Disney on Demand 1.30 Amazing Animals 1.55 New Adventures of Winne the Pooh 2.10 Bits Size 2.20 Bear in the Big Blue House 2.45 New Advertures of Winne the Pooli 3.00 The Little Mermand 3.30 Arl Attack 4.00 101 Dalmalians 4.30 Hercales: The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Pepper Ann 5.20 Smart Guy 6.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 FB.M: Toy Story (1995) 8.20 Honey I Shrunk the Kafs The TV Show 9.05 Dinoseurs 10.00 Home Improvement 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Dr Quant Medicine Woman 11.50 Classic Toons 12.00 Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo 6.30 Power Rangers Turbo 6.55 Spidemen 7.20 Oggy and the Cockoaches 7.30 Dennis and Gnasher 8,00 Hero Turtles: The Next 6.00am Gumm Bears 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Tatespin 7.00 101 Dalmatians 7.25 Classic Toons 7.30 101 Dalmatians 8.00 Tenon and Pumbra 8.25 Classic Toons 8.30 Tenon and Pumbra 9.00 Hercules The TV Show 9.30 Hercules The TV Show Mutation 8.25 The Incredible Hulk 8.50 Iron Man 9.15 Farriastic Four 9.49 X-Men 10.05 Casper 10.30 Cogy and the Codimaches 10.55 Ees/Straveganza 11.05 Bobby's World 11.30 Lile with Loue 11.55 Home to Pent 12.05pm The Secret Files of the Spy 12.00 Disney on Demand 12.30pm Disney Dogs 12.30 Donkey Kong Country 1.00

Mowgh. The New Adventures of the Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Venture 1.55 The Incredible Hulk 2.20 Iron Man 2.45 Fartastic Four 3.10 × Men 3.30 × Press 3.35 Spiderman 4.00 Goosebumps 4.25 Hero Turtles: The Next Mulation 5.00 Dennis and Grasher 5.30 Ace Ventura 6.00 Donley Kong Country 6.30 EeldStravaganza 6.56 Oggy and the Cockreaches 7.00 Close NICKELODEON

6.00am Extreme Ghodibusters 6.30 Bruno the (Nd 7.00 CatDog 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 Hey Amoldi 8.30 Doug 9.00 Children's BBC 10.00 Wimze's House 10.30 Pape Beaver Stories 11.00 The Magic School Bus 11.30 PB Bear/Annual Antics/Family Ness 12.00 Rugrats 12.30pm Blue's Clues 1.00 Bananas in Pyjamas 1.30 Frankin 2.00 Paddington Bear/Lozde's Library/Portland Ruthar Men/fuor the Foolins 2.30 Children's BBIAN Men/Nor the Engine 2.30 Children's BBC 3.30 Doug 4.00 Angry Beavers 4.30 Rugrals 5.00 Sister Saler 5.30 Kenan and Kei 5.00 Salvras the Teanage Witch 6.30 The Secret Life of Alex Mack 7.00 Glose BRAVO 8.00pm Marial Law 9.00 Cops 9.30 The

Late Lourge 10.00 Externs Champonship Wissising 10.30 Erotic Confessions 11.00 FLM: Best of the Bast (1989) 1.00am Erotic Confessions 1.30 The Late Lourge 2.00 Martial Law 3.00 FILM: Supervisions (1975) 5.00 Extreme Championship Wresting 5.30 Cops 6.00 Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Cluriess 7.30 Carolina in the City

8.00 Mad About You 8.30 Spin City 9.00 Drop the Dead Conkey 9.30 Whose Line Is If Anyway? 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Semield 11.30 Spin City 12.00 Lare

Night with David Letterman 1.00em Gam Shanding's Show 1.30 Nurses 2.00 Aimos Perfect 2.30 Tips and Fibs 3.00 Mork and Mindy 3,38 Abbott and Cosleto 4,00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: Spm-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bloomberg Information Television 8.00 Sightings 9.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 10.00 The Sh. Milton Dollar Mari 11,00 Dark Stradows 11.30 The Ray Brobbury Theatre 12.00 The Twitight Zone 12.30pm The Twitight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stones 2.30 Miltones Marine and Miltones 3.00 Buck Mystenes, Magic and Miracles 3.00 Buck

Rogers in the 25th Century 4.00 The incredible Hull 5.00 Sgrtings 6.00 Space Presenct 7.00 The So Million Dollar Man 8.00 PSI Factor Chronicles of the Paranomal 9.00 Bebylon 5 10.00 FILM: Ghostbusters II (1999) 12.00 Twn Peaks 1.00 ten FILM: Scanner Cop II: Volkin's Revenge (1995) 2.45 Sci-Focus Special 3.00 Dark Shadows 4.00 Close

HOME & LEISURE

Gardens Simply Painting 6.30 Instant Gardens 7.00 Garden Calendar 7.30 The Restoration Garne 8.00 Australia's Strangest Home Improvements 8.30 The Closs Guide 9.00 The Joy of Painting 9.30 Grassnots 10.00 Instant Gardens 10.30 Antiques 7rait 11.00 Hobited on Fishing with Paul Young 11.25 The Home and Letture House 11.30 Total Fishing with Matt Hayes 12.00 These Four Walls 12.30pm Our House Down Under 1.00 The Fundure Our House Down Under 1.00 The Furniture Guys 1.30 Home Savvy 2.00 New Yankee Workshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Vita 3.00 This Old House 3.30 Two's Country DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30 The Dicemen 5.00 Connections 6.00 Wild-ille SCS 6.30 Untained Americana 7.30 Flightime 8.00 Medical Detectives 8.30 Medical Detectives 8.00 Shadow of the Assassin 10.00 Forensic Detectives 11.00 The FBI Files 12.00 Forensic Detectives am Fliohdine 1.30 Dicemen 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET

12,00am Hollywood Salari 1.00pm Lions 12,00am Hollywood Satah 1,00pm Lons
— Finding Freedom 2,00 Lons — Finding
Freedom 3,00 Saving the Tigor 4,00 Bom to
be Free 5,00 Waddie Rissoue 6,00 Pet
Rescue 7,00 Wildele SOS 6,00 Animal
Doctor 9,00 Emergency Vets 9,30
Emergency Vets 10,00 Emergency Vets
10,30 Emergency Vets 11,00 Emergency
Vets 11,30 Emergency Vets 12,00 Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Gaston and the Truffle Hunlers 7.30 Crowned Eagle King of the Forest 8.00 Colony Z 8.30 Killer Whales of the "Fored 9.00 Externe Earth. Storm Chasers 10.00 On the Edge Aconcagua — Two Weeks on a Big Hill 11.00 On the Edge Paying for the Piper 12.00 Shipwrecks Lifeboal — Shaken Not Streed 12.30am Shipwrecks Lifeboal — Shaken Not Streed 12.30am Shipwrecks Lifeboal — In Sale Honde

2.00pm Mamones of 1975 3.00 Joseph Kennedy 4.00 Secrets of Warr Vietnam -Hidden in Plain Sight 5.00 Bombers 6.0 Curse on the Gyoses 6.55 Photos for I Future 7.00 Joseph Stain 7.55 Photos

CARLTON FOOD

9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxo-Nitchen College 10.00 Chef for a Day 10. Nathen College 10.00 Chef for a Day 10. So You Trank You Can Dook 11.00 Won Thompson Cooks 11.30 Ideal Home Coo 12.00 Food Network Daily 12.30pm For Faciory 1.00 Covon's butchen Cologe 1. The Green Gournet 2.00 Retrospective. 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Simply Fr. 3.45 More Simply Antony 4.30 Minduls' Indian Kitchen 6.00 Close LIVING

6.00am Can'l Cook, Won't Cook 6.3 Animal Pescue 7.00 Professor Bubble 7.1 Polka Doi Shorts 7.40 Johnson and Frienc 7.50 Babaloos 7.55 Practical Parenter B.00 Barney and French 8.25 My Zoo 8.2 Tmy and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.0 Special Bables 9.30 Home and Away 10.0 Jerry Springer 10.59 Mazry Powerb 11.4 Brookside 12.10pm Through the Keyhol 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Beyond Bellet Far Fertino 1.00 Mazry Powids 2.30 Specia or Fiction 1.40 Maury Povicti 2.30 Stress Babes 3.00 Living Room 3.50 Michael Co 4.40 Home and Away 5.10 Through In Reyhole 5.40 Can't Cook, Won't Cook 6.1 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 91 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.00 LA Law 9.0t FILM: Sins of the Mother (TVM 1991) 11.00 Seriasyi 12.00 Class

5.00em Hasya Te Na Ghar Vasya 5.30 H-Tin Hri Hai 8.00 Heto Kal Aaj Aur kal 6.30 Anaz Nayse Andaz Wohl 7.00 Fath 7.30 News 8.00 Naroban Duriya 8.30 Tara 9.00 Zanjeeren 9.30 Zoe Heath Show 10.00 Urdu Drama 11.00 Pot Luc 11.37 Parampara 12.00 FILM: Tamil Movie Mannan Maagat 3.00pm Bangla Ti Nokhatter Ro: 3.30 Public Demand 4.0 Film Chaluar 4.30 Fardisal Antal shai 5.3. Firm Chairar 4.30 Fardeal Arrial shar 5.3. Teacher 8.00 Pop Time 6.30 Hip Hip Hurra-7.00 Gudgude 7.30 Chairar 6.00 Hip Hip Hurra-News 8.30 Chairar Aur Haira 9.00 Hassatem 9.30 Brun 2.10.30 A.Zone 11.30 Asaay 12.00 News 12.30am Zee Busines: Show 1.00 Bangla Tv 1.30 Parvarian 2.00 FiLM: Hindi Movie 4.30 An Hour Wan

CRICKET 46-47

Reports from all of the county championship matches

SPORT

ROB HUGHES 50

Memories of Hillsborough ten years on



THURSDAY APRIL 15 1999

Butt seen as catalyst for success as Sunderland dream begins to unfold

Reid strategy provides rays of light

By GEORGE CAULKIN

BY the time the second glass of champagne kicked in, the discussion had turned to new signings and more seats, from bidding for Nicky Butt, of Manchester United and England, to increasing capacity at the Stadium of Light. Promotion, as well as drink, had clearly gone to the head, but when the fog of celebration had lifted partially. Sunder-land's hangover had given way to a steely resolve.

Tired and emotional Gigg Lane may have been on Tues-day night, as Sunderland confirmed their elevation to the FA Carling Premiership, but these were not the grandiose claims of drunkenness. Since the late 1950s, when the onetime "Bank of England club" gradually teetered into sapping disrepute, the ambition of their supporters has seldom been repaid. Now, it seems, the tide has turned.

Little remains of the decaying giant that Peter Reid first led to promotion four seasons ago, a pied piper serenading a lumbering dinosaur. Roker Park exists in memories and photo albums, attendances

Confident Keegan Todd takes stock.

have almost trebled and an ageing, defensive side have been flushed with youth and adventure. The year before the arrival of Reid, Bob Murray. the chairman, sickened by the bickering and inertia, had decided to relinquish his hold of the club. There were no takers. Now a pic, Sunderland's latest interim figures reported turnover up by 23 per cent.

They will need it, of course. There was a reluctance to compete in the transfer market last time around — inquiries for the likes of Paul Scholes, Paul Gascoigne and Andy Cole either rebuffed or outpriced and the tears were shed on the final day of the season when a 1-0 defeat by Wimbledon pushed them back to the purlah of the Nationwide League

unnecessary flourishes now, in spite of the money generated by those 42,000 souls who flock regularly through the turnstiles, a few hundred yards above the labyrinth of



Upwardly mobile: delighted Sunderland players fly the flag after the emphatic victory over Bury on Tuesday night that sealed their return to the FA Carling Premiership

ously formed the Wearmouth Colliery. It matters little that Sunderland are the third-best supported club in the land, that plans to lift attendances by another 12,000 may be brought forward. Players will be cherry-picked rather than harvested, the team modified not deconstructed.

won't dismantle this Reid said yesterday. "I need to strengthen by adding to the squad and I will, honestly believe that it was a better achievement when we ago, but that's a compliment because I always expected this

lot to do it. In my heart of Denmark goalkeeper.

hearts, I know they'll be good enough. Some of these lads can definitely play in the Premiership. You can see for sure the players I mean. I've got to get people in who are better than those I have and that will be difficult. I'm looking at three or four, but I won't take the team apart. They're good enough and young enough to get better."

If all that evokes a lack of drive, the impression is erroneous. Already, there are firm suggestions that Reid, once lessons have been learnt. Every tranche of his team needs strengthening - from a proven centre half, to cover for Thomas Sorensen, his impressive

Midfield, though, is where the battle is won or lost. He has quality in Lee Clark and authority in Kevin Ball, but neither are proven at the highest level. Carsten Fredgaard, a El.8 million recruit from FC Lyngby, arrives in July and a £2 million offer for Curtis Woodhouse, of Sheffield Unit-ed, was tabled last month, but it is here that Butt - aged 24 and terrier-like - enters the equation.

Such is the prowess of Roy Keane, Ryan Giggs and David Beckham that Butt must share the first-team roster with Scholes and though, theoretically, he would cost upwards of £4 million, Alex Ferguson is ture. A long-term contract ties him to Old Trafford.

The same old story, some will argue, but Reid said: "I know what I have to do." Simultaneously, he can point to his reserve side, marshalled by Adrian Heath, his former Everton team-mate, who are likely to top the Pontin's League premier division this

season - ahead, ironically, of United Youngsters like Jody Craddock, Darren Williams and Darren Holloway are of a calibre that "every Premier-ship manager would want in their squad". Reid said. With promotion guaran-

teed, the intention was always to increase capacity incremen-tally to 64,000 should England host the 2006 World Cup, but already it is feasible that the first two phases may be meld-

Fifty-four thousand is the ling, the chief executive, said: There's a brilliant untapped market here. We will have to gauge how the season-ticket sales go, but we do have the option of extending the capacity again. We have it as a possibility if the demand is there."

The champagne, dreams, the words were still flowing late into last night.



Reid savours his team's moment of triumph at Gigg Lane

Owen out of action for three months

By STEPHEN WOOD

MICHAEL OWEN, the Liverpool and England striker, is not expected to return to action for three months because of injury. It took his club longer than expected to announce the news and, given the extent of his problem, their reticence is

not surprising.

Owen first suffered a hamstring strain in the FA Carling Premiership match against Derby County last month and, on Monday night, he experienced a recurrence in Liverpool's game with Leeds United at Elland Road. He limped off in the first half, but Gerard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, had hoped that the injury would prove straightforward. However, Owen underwent a scan on the hamstring two days ago and the results revealed that he has also damaged tendons in his right leg.

Owen said: "It is disappointing news, but I have every faith in the medical staff at Liverpool and hopefully I will return as soon as possible, feel-

ing fully fit."
If Owen's absence is the last thing that Liverpool needed, it could also affect the fortunes of the England national team. The 19-year-old striker will be unavailable for the friendly against Hungary later this month and, moreover, the two European championship qualifying matches against Sweden and Bulgaria in June.

Kevin Keegan, the temporary England coach, could also be without the services of Chris Sutton, the Blackburn Rovers striker, for the games England must win to enhance their chances of qualifying for the European championships

For Owen, the next three months could become a blessing in disguise. As a result of his inclusion in England's under-20 squad for the world youth championships in Malaysia in 1997, and in the senior squad for the World Cup last summer, he has been forced to play without a proper break for three years.

Indeed, Houllier was alteenager a rest in the next few weeks, whether or not the injury proved serious. "We do not want the problem to become a chronic injury, or to put Michael's long-term development at risk," he said. Now they have no choice and the enforced hiatus in his career could allay fears of Owen suffering from burn-out.

No 1692

5 German POW camp (6) 8 West African fetish (4)

tress (8) 10 Outstanding instrumentalist (8) 12 State betting system (4) 15 Scots cloth (6)

21 Sudden emotional display (8) 23 A floor-covering (abbr.) (4)

24 Church reading: school period (6) 25 Change channels (6)

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2 Rude, insulting (7)

3 Place of frequent resort (5)

old cart (4) once (7) 18 Sharp (5) 20 Broken: a break (5) 22 Consecutive sequence; hurry

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Sudden death of Postlethwaite at 55 shocks Formula One

HARVEY Postlethwaite has died just as he was embarking on a new challenge that promised to enhance his mark on Formula One.

The heart attack that claimed his life came as he did what he knew and loved: patrolling the pitlane and checking the performance of his latest car, which was already threatening to make an impact on the sport a year before its

appearance on the grid.
Postlethwaite. 55, left the
Tyrrell team, which was bought out by British American Racing last year, but had found a new role running the team developing a car for Hon-

Kevin Eason on the loss of one of motor racing's defining figures

da's return to grand prix rac-ing. He was testing at Barcelona when he died. Mike Gascoyne, who spent

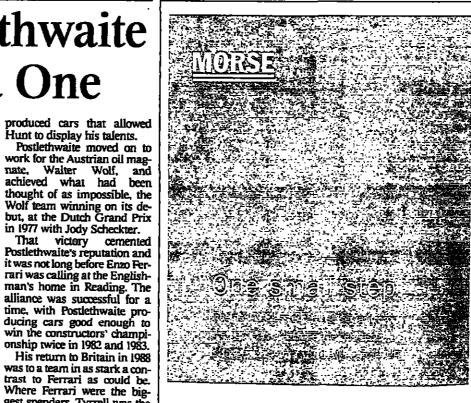
seven years being nurtured by Postlethwaite at Tyrrell before leaving to become technical director of Jordan last year, described him as a "defining fig-ure". He said: "His infectious enthusiasm for motor sport and everything about Formula One was an inspiration for those of us who worked with

use ingenuity to overcome the lack of funds enjoyed by engineering departments in the biggest teams."

Postlethwaite, armed with a PhD in mechanical engineering, entered Formula One with the fledgeling March team. But it was with the extrovert Hesketh team that he made his name and that of James Hunt, later to become world champion with The team was short-lived, but Postlethwaite

> gest spenders, Tyrrell was the family team, headed by Ken Tyrrell, with a budget best described as shoestring. Apart from a brief sojourn with the Sauber Mercedes GT team. Postlethwaite saw out the last years of his career with Tyrrell, always producing surprises and paving the way for other teams. In 1990, he produced the raised-nose Tyrrell, setting a trend still followed now, and even last year, teams such as Ferrari and Jordan copied Postlethwaite's Xwings, raised structures to aid aerodynamic efficiency, before they were banned. When Ken Tyrrell decided to sell out to BAR, it seemed Postlethwaite might fade from

the scene, to spend more time with his family after 27 years of trailing around the world's motor-racing circuits. But Honda called and he was getting ready for his next great challenge. More is the pity that he cannot see it through.



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Postlethwaite, left, discusses team strategy with Ken Tyrrell at the Nürburgring in 1996

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